

YORK AND YORK COUNTY

—1749 — 1899—

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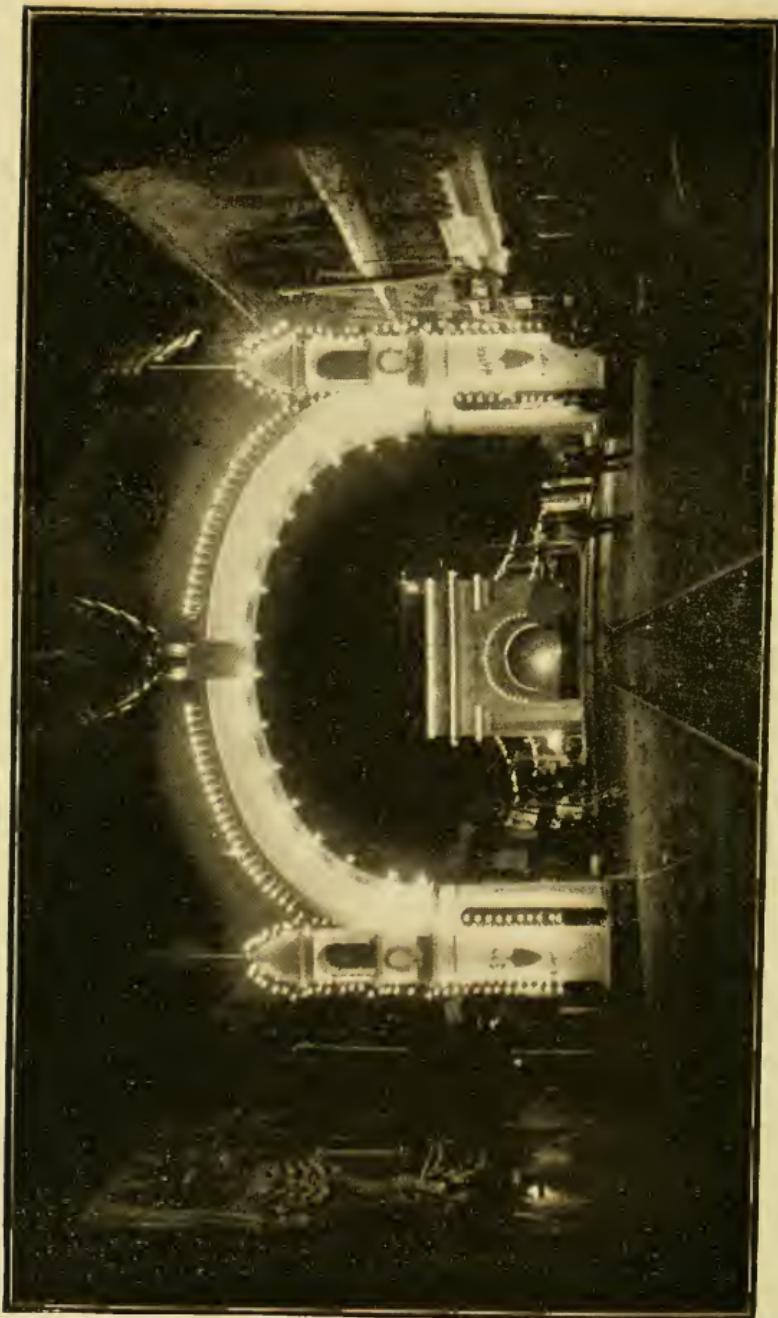
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YORK

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YORK

COUNTY



WEST MARKET STREET, SEPT. 3-6, 1899

LOOKING TOWARDS CENTRE SQUARE

Some Facts Concerning
York and York County, PA

A Sesqui-Centennial Memento

By

Charles A. Hawkins and Houston E. Landis

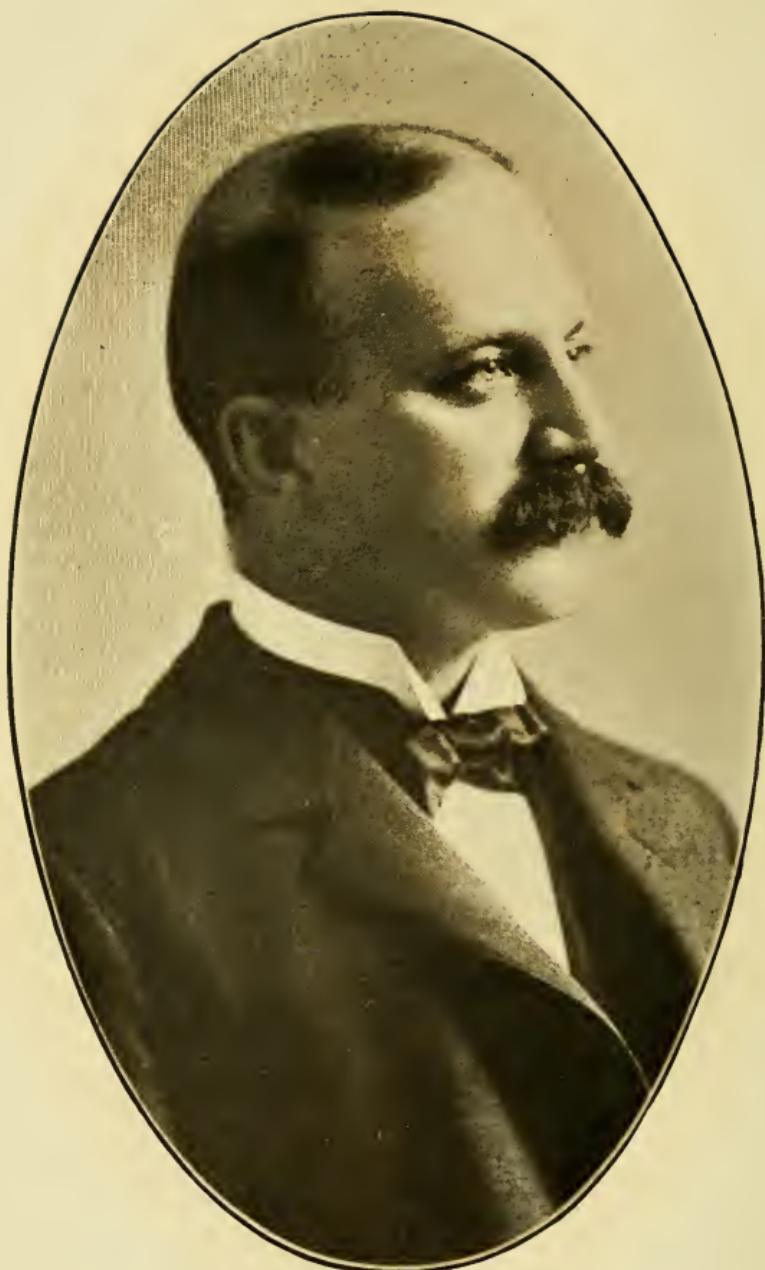
Prepared by direction of M. B. Gibson,
H. E. Niles and Geo. S. Billmeyer,
Committee.

York, Penna.

1901

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By Houston E. Landis and Charles A. Hawkins

Press of York Daily



M. B. GIBSON

CHAIRMAN GENERAL SESQUI-CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Introductory.

This little book is designed to present to the general public some facts concerning the City of York, its notable development and its conspicuous advantages as a manufacturing and commercial center. It has been prepared chiefly for the benefit of our own citizens as a sequence to the sesqui-centennial celebration of the organization of York County in 1749. It is therefore but fitting that some little space be devoted to a brief account of that event which in itself has been an occurrence of some importance in the history of the city.

The movement had its origin in the York Board of Trade. It was first formally organized May 13, 1899, at a meeting of a number of citizens which resulted in the selection of a general committee to take the

matter in charge, composed of members of the Board of Trade, representatives of City Councils and of the School Board, and well known business and professional men. Most of the members of this committee were constituted chairmen of various auxiliary committees, with power to associate with themselves such citizens as they might desire who were willing to assist. The general committee was made up as follows:

M. B. GIBSON, President,

GEO. S. BILLMEYER, Treasurer,

H. E. LANDIS, Secretary.

Geo. S. Billmeyer, Chairman Finance Committee.

M. B. Gibson, Chairman Industrial Committee.

M. L. Van Baman, Chairman Civic Committee.

Isaac Rudisill, Chairman School Committee.

J. Frank Gable, Chairman Decorating Committee.

S. M. Manifold, Chairman County Committee.

W. H. Lanius, Chairman Fireworks and Music Committee.

Grier Hersh, Chairman Invitation and Reception Committee.

John Garrety, Chairman Municipal Committee.

H. E. Powell, Chairman Publicity and Printing Committee.

Dr. E. T. Jeffers, Chairman Historical and Programme Committee.

H. C. Niles, R. F. Gibson, George W. Gross, Wm. A. Froelich.

This organization proved to be a most efficient one. The sum of \$5847.35 was collected by private subscription to defray the expenses, and a specific amount was appropriated to the uses of each auxiliary committee. All took hold with a will, each subcommittee performing its separate function under the efficient and active management of its chairman in harmony with and subordi-

nate to the whole general committee, operating under the able leadership of the president. The result was a four days' demonstration such as has seldom, if ever, been excelled in a city of the size of York on a like occasion.

Four imposing triumphal arches of modified Ionic style of architecture were erected at the four entrances to the historic Centre Square, wherein stood the old court house which, in the darkest days of the American Revolution, furnished a refuge and an abiding place for the Continental Congress. Between the arches arose at stated intervals eight white columns constructed in harmony with them, thus completely encircling the Square and forming a beautiful Court of Honor. These were decorated with a profusion of electric lights, some attached in artistic fashion and others suspended from arch to column and from column to arch. The result was a scene which might well have led an alarmed burgher of 1749, had he un-

expectedly witnessed it, to rub his bewildered eyes in astonished inquiry as to whether it was the upper or nether world to which he had suddenly been transported. Other arches were erected, two west of the Codorus Creek on Market Street, one on Market near Beaver, one at Pine Street and one on South George Street between King Street and the Square, the last mentioned under the auspices of the Merchants' Association. Individual decoration was of course abundant. The city was profusely gay with bunting and flags and electric lights. Brilliant displays of fireworks were provided on the fair grounds for the entertainment of the people at night.

It was appropriate that the all-important religious history, life and prospects of our county should be discussed preliminary to the more festive demonstrations that were to follow. On Sunday, September 3rd, a meeting for this purpose was accordingly held in the auditorium of the new high school building, presided over by Rev. H. E. Niles, D. D.

From the standpoint of the past the subject was forcibly presented by Rev. James Drummond, while Rev. W. S. Freas, D. D., discussed in a most acceptable manner the existing results of the past religious life of the people, and the developments that might be anticipated for the future.

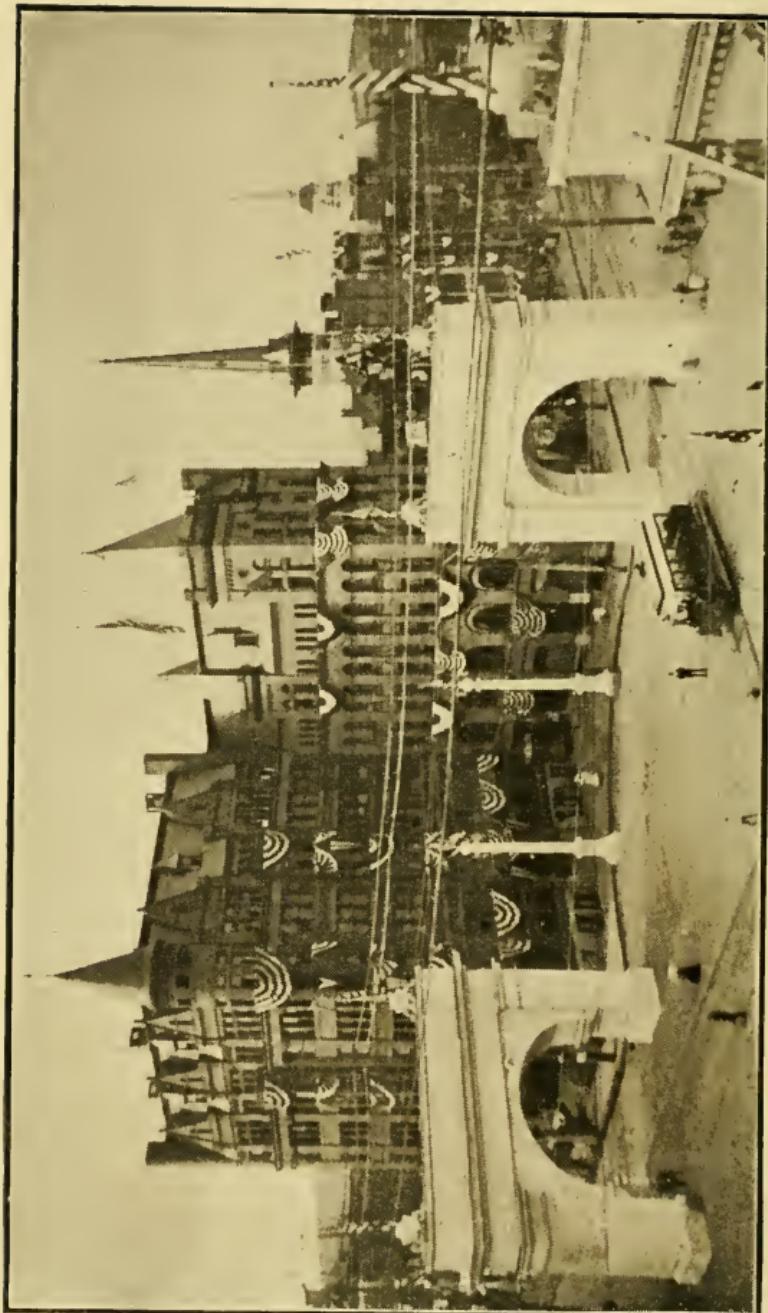
The celebration was formally inaugurated in an address of welcome by Mr. M. B. Gibson, chairman of the general committee, on the morning of September 4th at the York Opera House. The particular purpose of this meeting was to listen to a historical review of our city and county. Dr. E. T. Jeffers, presided in his usual felicitous manner, and most interesting addresses were delivered relating to the three classes of citizens who composed the original settlers of York County. Hon. John W. Bittenger spoke of the Germans, the Scotch Irish were the subject of a discourse by Robert C. Bair, Esq., and Prof. George R. Prowell discussed the Friends or Quakers, each of the speakers

thus appropriately presenting the particular merits of the ancestry from which he sprung.

These addresses relating to the people of historic York County, were followed by a forceful oration from H. C. Niles, Esq., upon old Yorktown, as our attractive city was once called, after which they were favored with a poem from Mr. William M. Gamble depicting in well chosen phrase the lofty sentiments which stirred our fore-fathers to quit their ancestral homes, and transform themselves into nation builders in America.

In the afternoon of the same day the people were called upon to witness an impressive pageant consisting of nearly five thousand school children marching to a flag raising in honor of the dedication of the magnificent high school building at Penn Park, which had just been completed. Addresses were made on this occasion by Hon. E. D. Ziegler, congressman, Charles H. Stallman, chairman of the school board, Hon. Frank Geise, mayor, and others.

The greatest concourse of people ever assembled in York, possibly not less than 100,000, witnessed the industrial parade on the second day of the celebration. This included one hundred and sixty-eight floats, besides the large number of men representing the various industrial establishments. The parade itself was a revelation to visitors and a surprise to many of our own citizens, both with respect to its magnitude and the evidences it furnished of the manufacturing strength and importance of the city. The civic parade of the succeeding day was no less imposing, about one hundred and twenty-five organizations of various kinds being in line. The people of York, and particularly those who had assumed the arduous task of preparing for the four days' demonstration, felt justly disposed to congratulate themselves upon the conspicuously successful outcome of their labors.



CENTRE SQUARE, SEPT. 3-6 1899

YORK

When seeking information, particularly information for practical use, one wants to be told, not of glittering and imaginary possibilities, but of existing facts. He desires to know not a few startling or isolated events connected with the subject of inquiry, but rather its general status from all points of view. It will be the aim in succeeding pages to briefly and succinctly depict the city of York as it is.

To the sensible man of affairs a speculative advance in real estate prices is not a subject of congratulation, and rapid increase in population beyond the actual requirements and resources of the place is hurtful, not beneficial. York may not hesitate therefore to publish to the world that it has never had the visitation commonly denominated a

"boom." It may also congratulate itself that it has never experienced the pinch of hard times in the usual acceptation of the term. It's uncommonly diversified industrial establishments keep going at all times. It has always progressed with sure and steady, though latterly much accelerated, strides, ever enlarging the super-structure, but not without at the same time broadening the foundation.*

When the people of a community force the advent of industrial establishments by artificial means, such as donating money, or plants or valuable lands to manufacturers, they supply evidence that conditions in the

*Though there were 583 buildings in process of construction in March, 1901, a number entirely unprecedented in the history of the city, yet this is regarded as but an entirely natural growth comporting with the existing industrial development of the city, a development not forced but based upon natural conditions as we believe these pages will demonstrate. The present complaint is that sufficient houses cannot be found to meet existing demands.

place are not such as to attract industries. There are industries in York, how many and how diversified they are the public at large does not fully realize, but they are not of the hot-house variety.* No nursery was required to develop them unless it be the nursery in which was developed the character of its people

It is unquestionably true that York, particularly during the past decade, has grown rapidly in population. In 1890 it was 20,793 and in 1900 it was 33,708.** Yet this was not

*For statistics showing actual progress see pages 34 and 66 and succeeding pages.

**The figures show, for the city as a whole an increase in population of 12,915, or 62.02½ per cent. from 1890 to 1900. In cities of the size of York and larger this per centage of increase has been excelled only in two or three exceptional cases.

The population in 1880 was 13,940, showing an increase of 6,853, or 49.16 per cent. from 1880 to 1890.

The population by wards in 1900 was as follows:

in excess of the rapid growth of the substantial and well founded business interests of the place. The work to be done has vastly increased, and this has been followed by a natural influx of the hands to do it.

The condition which perhaps more than any other one thing gives rise to this prosperity and lends to York a peculiar and conspicuous industrial strength among her rivals, is the low cost of labor and a resulting low cost of production.

Passing back a step further in search of the basic reason for the cheapness of labor, attention is at once drawn to the frugal and industrious habits of the people, not of the city merely, but of the country surrounding as well. A perusal of the outline of York

Ward 1,	2,388	Ward 8,	2,317
“ 2,	1,587	“ 9,	5,461
“ 3,	998	“ 10,	2,517
“ 4,	1,803	“ 11,	3,869
“ 5,	1,615	“ 12,	4,594
“ 6,	2,777	“ 13,	1,047
“ 7,	2,735		
		Total,	33,708



ON EAST MARKET STREET

County history appended will reveal the fact that the population is composed largely of descendants of Germans, Scotch Irish and Friends or Quakers, all people who usually "get along in the world." York County people as a rule are not spend-thrifts, nor are they of the overreaching "get rich quick" class. Though good livers as compared with people elsewhere, they live well within their means, and accumulate, if not large fortunes, at least sufficient to make living easy for themselves and those who come after them. It is safe to say that the class of people who, when they make ten dollars a week spend it and when they make twenty-five dollars a week likewise spend it, and in either case remain as far behind as possible with their store bills, are not to any great extent of either German, Scotch Irish or Quaker extraction. Being frugal and industrious, the farmers in the vicinity of York are enabled, at a moderate profit and without the added emoluments of one to three mid-

dlemen, to supply our tables at low rates, selling to us from their wagons at our doors or at the five very ample markets which they and their wives and their daughters personally and regularly attend. The laboring man, the mechanic, the clerk, the merchant, the manufacturer and the professional man all have the advantage of the low cost of living for themselves and families, and with their own comparatively inexpensive habits are enabled to live on small profit or pay as compared with those in like callings elsewhere.

Frugality and industry intelligently directed, therefore, furnish the backbone of our prosperity and put us ahead in the race with competing localities. No more potent factors could exist than these. In harmony with them, low cost of construction of houses, reasonable prices for real estate, low tax rates,* and particularly low rentals,** all lend important aid in keeping down the cost

*See page 50.

**See page 51.

of living, and consequently the cost of labor and finally the cost of production.

Yet in few places, if any, is labor better off. We of York feel that we can "point with pride" to the fact that nowhere are those who look to wages for their support better or more substantially housed, fed or clothed. In the first place our wage earners, as already indicated, are, as a class, more provident than wage earners generally. They mostly understand how to spend and when to spend, and how to accumulate and finally secure their own homes. A large proportion are themselves property owners. In the second place, whether the wages are high or not to the person receiving them depends not only upon the number but also upon the purchasing power of the dollars received. If a man's wages were fifty per cent. higher and the cost of the things he buys sixty per cent. higher, he would be poorer by the difference between the fifty and sixty per cent. The cost of living in York being uncommonly low

though the wage earnings in dollars are low, yet the working man's wages are relatively high and herein lies the key to the situation. So long as this condition exists York's industrial supremacy is secure, and the retention of her present rank as the first city in the State in manufacturing importance after Philadelphia and Pittsburg, may be confidently expected.

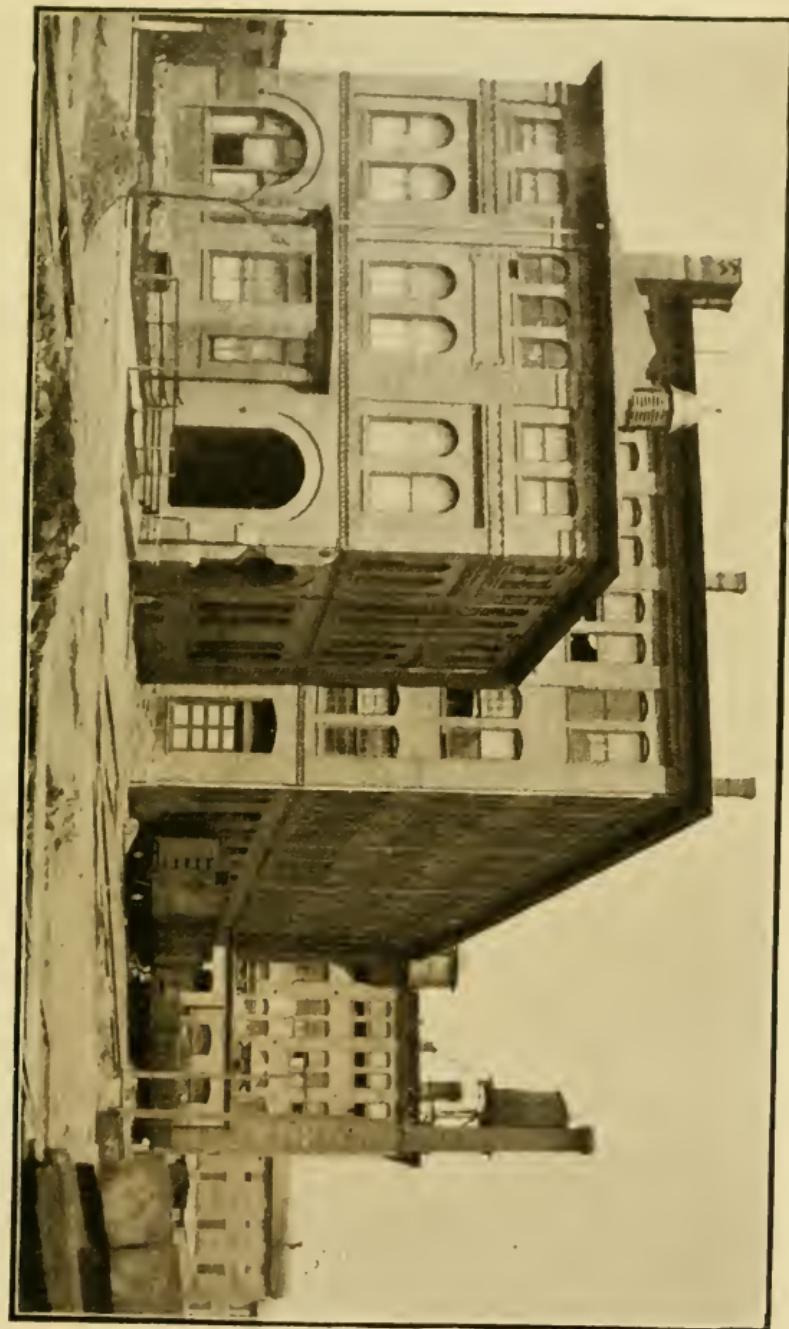
It goes without saying that he who can lay down his goods at the door of his customer at a price lower than his competitors and yet make the same profit as his rivals, will in the long run necessarily win in the fight for trade. Whether or not this can be accomplished is simply a question of cost of production and cost of transportation. In the matter of cost of production, or cost of labor, which is the most potent element therein, York challenges comparison with any town or city in the country. As to cost of transportation, this depends chiefly upon two things, distance and competition amongst

carriers. Other causes of a more or less artificial character, such as combination amongst carriers for example, may to some extent and at times vary these two natural causes in fixing freight rates, but in the main and in the long run they are the controlling factors.

As to distance, competitors, generally speaking, have similar advantages and disadvantages. What one gains in nearness to raw materials he not uncommonly loses in remoteness from his market and *vice versa*. With respect to competition amongst carriers York at one time was at a disadvantage in that it was dependent upon one railroad company to carry its finished products, as well as its fuel and raw materials not produced in the county. But this is now all changed with the comparatively recent advent of the Western Maryland Railroad connections. We now have access to the whole outside world through the Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio and Reading systems the

only ones of importance in this section of the country. Moreover the York Southern Railroad extending from York to the southeastern portion of the county has been recently consolidated with the Maryland Central into the Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad. Over this only a few miles of connecting line is necessary to furnish still more direct intercourse with the Reading system and the extensive coal fields of which it is the outlet. Increased rivalry among competing railroads has no doubt been of very material importance in promoting the industrial revival of the last decade in the city of York.

But there are other causes. Our own people are awakening. They have come to a realization of the fact that there is no more favorable locality in the United States for the establishing of manufacturing industries than right here in their midst, and they are themselves rapidly taking advantage of it, and as a result the city seems to be alive with new industries. York does not lack



ONE OF THE FACTORIES

capital of its own and does not need to go a-begging. The bank deposits within this city alone aggregate over five and a quarter millions of dollars, one-half of which probably consists of time deposits drawing interest. This of course represents but a small portion of the capital available within the city. The *per capita* wealth of the city is large. Hitherto most of it has been sent out of the town for investment. We are not dependent upon outside assistance, though of course such assistance is welcome from those desiring to furnish it. The city's development is chiefly from within and not, as a result of advertisement, from without. Yet outsiders are already coming to an understanding of the advantages of York and adding their industrial energy, labor and capital to our own.

Having referred to the cost of labor and of transportation it now remains to consider the cost of power as one of the important elements in the cost of production. The matter of freight rates on coal has already

been alluded to. But York is so fortunately situated that she is not or soon will not be dependent upon steam power alone. The cost of power in the near future will be reduced one-half. Plans for transmitting electric power into the city from York Haven have already been projected by a corporation organized for the purpose, and in the inevitable course of events the wheels of industry must soon respond to the ceaseless and turbulent rolling of the waters of the nearby Susquehanna, than which no river in the land, unless perhaps it be the Niagara, offers larger or better facilities for the development of electric power. At this one point alone, (and there are none better on the river), enough power can be produced at the water's lowest stage to run from two to three times as much machinery as is now in use in the entire city. The loss in transmission will not exceed five per cent.

At the Falls near York Haven, fourteen miles from York, a plant is in process of

construction for the development of this power. The inventive genius of these modern times will not long permit the pent up powers of our rivers and creeks to remain unharnessed. Why dig for power in the bowels of the earth and haul it over miles of railway, when daily it is passing our very doors unused. It requires no stretch of the imagination to realize that when York has had the power of the Susquehanna transmitted to it by means of wire and combines this with her already existing low cost of labor, she will simply be invincible as a producer. No practical business man can afford at the beginning of the twentieth century to invest large sums in the construction of a manufacturing plant without considering its location with reference to the feasibility of attaching it with water power transmitted by electricity. All evidences point to the conclusion that water power can be supplied at so much less cost than any other that the manufacturer who shall not make use of

it in the not distant future, will necessarily be driven to the wall by his competitors.

The census data of 1900 for this city, which it may be here stated were by special request tabulated for use in this book first amongst all the cities of the United States, show that the total number of manufacturing establishments, strictly within the city limits, exclusive of those having an output of less value than \$500 for the year, was 464 with an actual invested capital of \$9,674,684 made up as follows:

Land	\$931,836
Buildings	1,356,474
Machinery, etc	2,202,186
<hr/>	
Total	\$4,490,496
Live capital	5,184,188
<hr/>	
Grand Total	\$9,674,684

The live capital includes cash on hand, bills receivable, unsettled ledger accounts, raw materials, stock in process of manufacture, fin-

ished products on hand, and other sundries. If to this be added the value of property, leased for manufacturing purposes for which rentals aggregating \$50,839 were paid, and which in reality represented capital applied to industrial uses, the total amount would exceed ten and a half millions, and if this be further increased by the sum of \$1,615,000, employed in factories in the immediate vicinity of the city but outside city limits, and in establishments erected within the city since the census data were taken, the aggregate would be about \$12,000,000.

The progress made in manufacturing since 1890, has been most gratifying and is best indicated by the following comparative summary taken from the census report, showing among other things that the output of factories has doubled in ten years; the number of employees has more than doubled and the capital invested in manufacturing industries is over two and one-half times as great as in 1890.

ITEMS.	1900	1890	Percentage of increase.
No. of establishments....	464	340	36.5
Capital invested.....	\$9,674,684	\$3,827,768	152.8
Average No. of employees*	7,687	3,666	109.7
Wages paid	\$2,637,781	\$1,320,091	99.8
Miscellaneous expenses...	\$789,688	\$357,547	120.9
Cost of materials used....	\$6,114,671	\$3,167,712	93.0
Value of products.....	\$11,955,836	\$5,950,597	100.9
Total population.....	33,708	20,793	62.1
Engaged in manufactures.	7,687	3,666	109.5
Percentage of manufacturing employees to total population	22.8	17.6	.....

As stated by the census bulletin, "This capital of \$9,674,684 (mentioned in the foregoing tables) was utilized in the manufacture of a product of the value of \$11,955,836. There was expended, to obtain this product, \$2,637,781 for wages, \$6,114,671 for materials, and \$789,688 for miscellaneous expenses, such as rent, taxes, ordinary repairs and sundries. It is not to be assumed, however, that the difference between the aggregate of

*Exclusive of the number of proprietors and firm members; also officers of corporations, general superintendents, managers, clerks and salesmen, and their salaries.

these sums and the value of the product is in any sense indicative of the profits of the establishments reported. The census schedule takes no cognizance of the cost of selling manufactured articles, or of interest on capital invested, or of mercantile losses incurred in the business, or of depreciation in plant. The value of the product given is the value as obtained or fixed at the factory or shop. This statement is necessary in order to avoid erroneous conclusions from the figures presented."

The census manufacturing statistics in detail and with respect to selected industries appear at page 66 and succeeding pages.

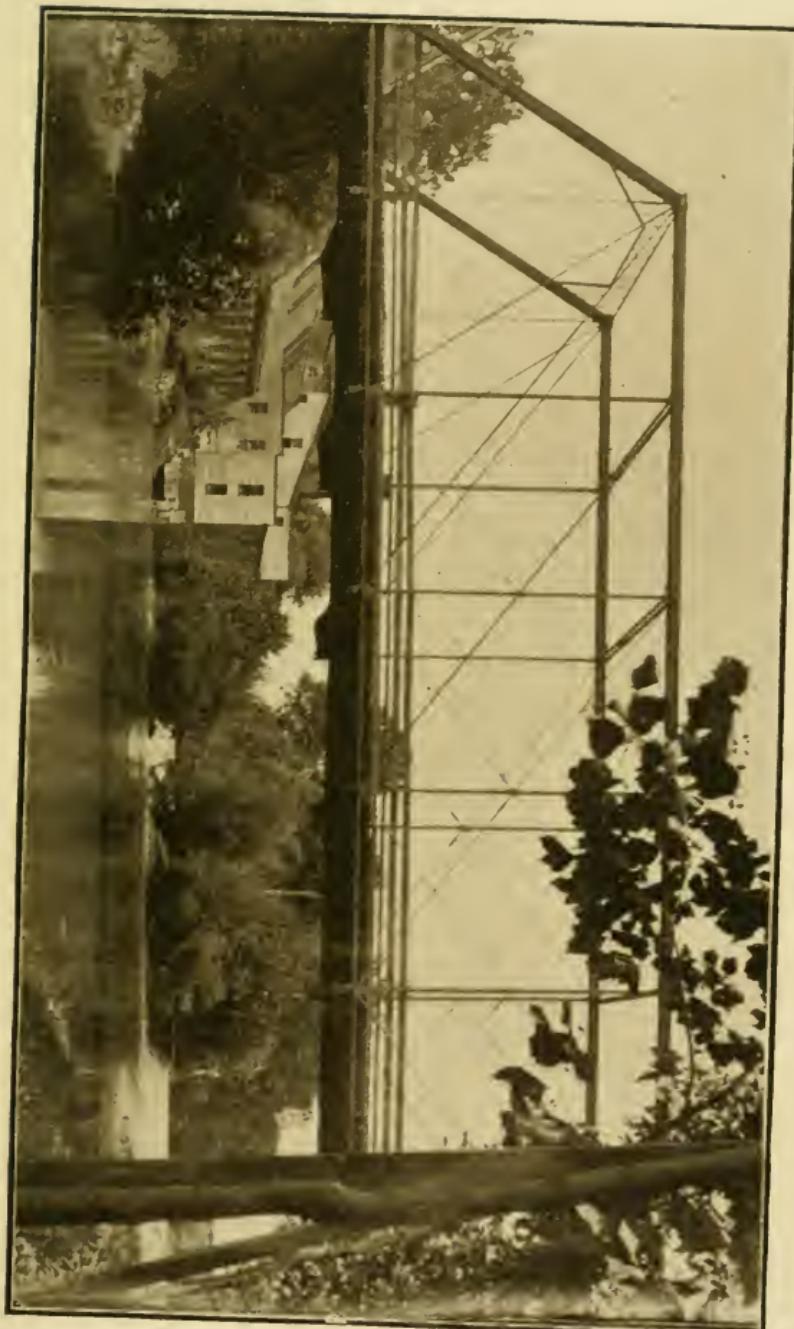
An item of interest, which may be here mentioned, not revealed by these census statistics, is the fact that in 1900 there was paid at the internal revenue office at York to the United States government as tax on cigars, beer and liquors manufactured in York County, and to a limited extent in the adjoining county of Adams, the sum of \$1,369,331.84.

The great importance of York as a cigar manufacturing center will be at once seen when it is remembered that nearly all of this large sum was for cigar stamps. The revenue collected at the same office in 1890 was \$773,-568.97. That for 1900 exceeds it by \$595,-762.87.

York has an area of 2250 acres. In 1890 it was 1283 acres. It is a well ordered city,* located in the midst of a fertile and extensive valley which from the neighboring heights presents one of the most beautiful and attractive agricultural prospects that the eye could wish to rest upon. York County, it is believed, furnishes a greater yield of farm products than any in the state, unless it be the adjoining county of Lancaster, and is dependent by no means upon manufacturing interests alone for its support.

*The arrests in 1900 were 451, being at the rate of 13 in a thousand in a population of 33,708. Of these 153 were for drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

AT THE OLD PAPER MILL



The ultimate basis of all material prosperity is the pursuit of agriculture. Such a basis York has. After all, farming is the industry of all industries, because the most essential and the one of greatest magnitude. Let it be noted too that farming with us has been in the last generation a subject of development as well as mechanical industries, as witness the fact that here in our own county the yield per acre has doubled in the past thirty years, the average amount of land under cultivation at the same time being largely augmented. Stock on the farms has been correspondingly improved in quality and increased in value. Agricultural methods and appliances have been revolutionized as the result of intelligence applied to farming, for brains, let it be observed, are just as essential, and just as effectively if not so demonstratively manifested amongst our farmers as elsewhere. The city of York is the center of supply for one of the richest of agricultural regions. To this as well as to the extra-

ordinary diversity of its industries, is due the city's constant and even prosperity, and to this no doubt is attributable the fact that the city's wholesale and jobbing trade has assumed proportions little thought of by the general public.

To one leaving the town of fifteen years ago and returning to the city of to-day, the change is a surprise and a revelation. The increase in population in that time is a hundred fold. Fine business structures have taken the place of the very ordinary buildings of twenty to fifty years ago. Store rooms have been doubled, quadrupled and sextupled in size, and the department store has become a fixed fact. Residences that were amongst the best have become plain by comparison, and factories and industries have grown numerous and increased in size beyond all anticipation. In appearance, in progressiveness, and in all that is substantial, York is unexcelled,—we believe it is not equaled,—by any city in Pennsylvania.

Our city always was well equipped with churches, those of German origin predominating, owing to the German ancestry of many of the people.* Ample and artistically constructed school houses are supplied with a corps of efficient teachers. Since the erection of the borough into a city in 1887, the school board has honored itself and the community at large by providing for uses of public education, structures in keeping with the over-shadowing importance of the purposes to which they are applied. The High School building, completed in 1899, favorably located as it is at the side of an open park, is unexcelled anywhere, either as to beauty of design or adaptability to its intended purposes.

The newly erected court house with its majestic front, supported by six magnificent granite columns of Ionic structure, is mounted by three domes, the center one rising to the height of 155 feet. Its exterior is a joy to all who possess a sense of the beautiful,

* See page 73.

and a visit to its artistic interior is a source of constant pleasure. In size it about four times exceeds the structure which it replaces. It is supplied with two court rooms, in each of which court is conducted simultaneously by the two judges of the county, thus expediting the transaction of legal business and reducing to a minimum the annoyance to suitors and witnesses in waiting for the trial of cases.

In keeping with other improvements the tract of land, centrally located, which was dedicated to public use by the heirs of William Penn, is rapidly being transformed from a barren and unkept common into a beautiful shaded park with attractive walks, statues, fountains and other ornamental features, prominent among which is a handsome granite shaft to the memory of the soldiers and sailors of the war of the rebellion. More beautifully located perhaps, but not so large, is Farquhar's Park, in the northwestern part of the city, where both young and old delight to congregate on pleasant summer evenings.

By the establishment of new reservoirs at an elevated position on one of the hillsides to the south of the city a pressure of seventy to one hundred pounds is secured throughout the town. The storage capacity of these reservoirs is 40,000,000 gallons, which insures a very efficient protection from loss by fire and proper grounds for a correspondingly low rate of insurance. All the water is filtered by eight gravity filters, each with a capacity of 500,000 gallons per day, thus furnishing to all consumers perfectly clear and pure water, not only conducive to the good health of the citizens, but especially adapted to manufacturing purposes in that it keeps the boilers free from scale. The system includes more than fifty miles of main. The cost of water varies with the amount consumed, running as low as six cents per thousand gallons. The consumption for the year 1900 was about 950,000,000 gallons.

The capacity of the gas plant which supplies

the town was about two years ago enlarged to 700,000 cubic feet daily, the growth of the city and the constantly increasing use of gas for cooking purposes rendering large extensions of the plant necessary, notwithstanding the growing importance of electricity as a light producing competitor. To supply the gas to the consumers requires about thirty miles of main. The price ranges from \$1.60 to \$1.40 a thousand feet for illuminating purposes and \$1.00 for cooking, heating and power. Two large electric plants furnish light, none better, for streets and dwellings, and power for purposes required, including the propulsion of electric cars.

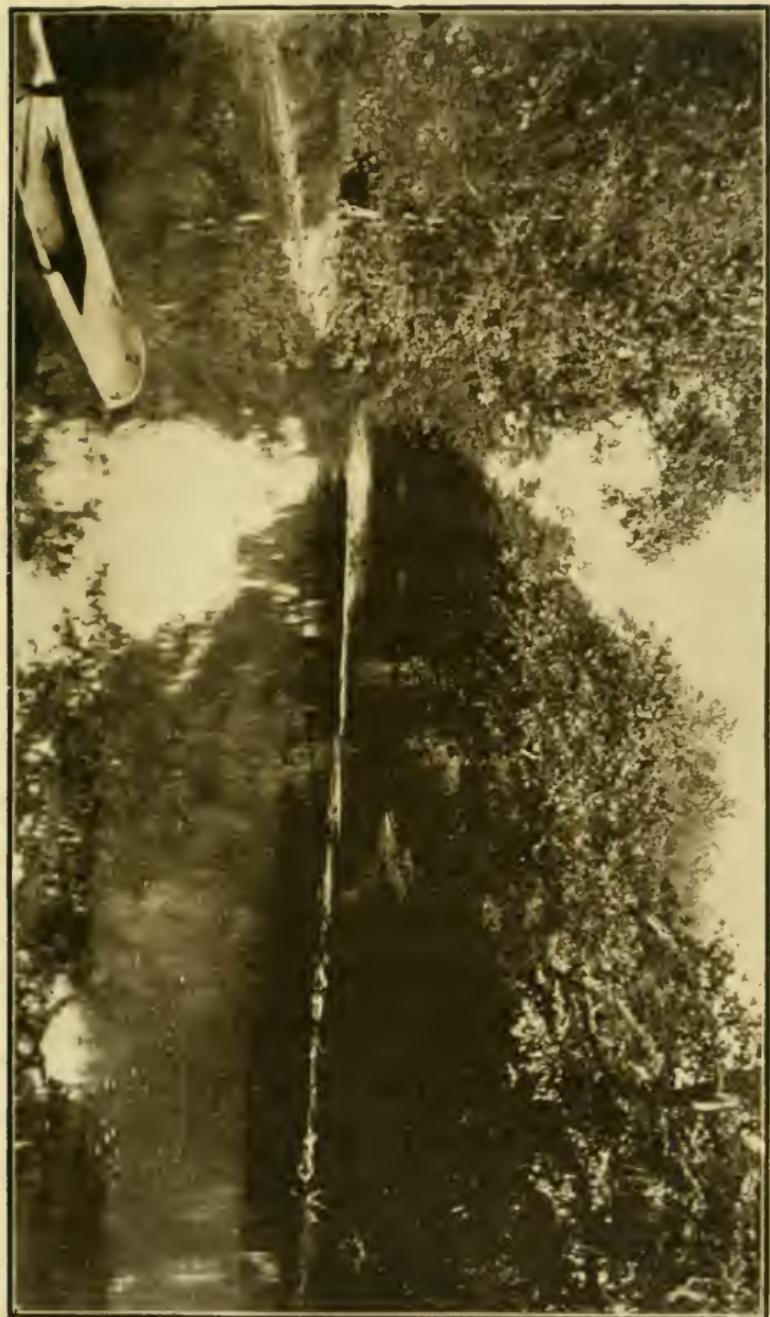
The rapid growth of the city has rendered desirable the adoption of a more complete sewerage system. Already the special services of an experienced sanitary engineer have been secured in this connection, and a system designed by him, including the laying of more than forty-four miles of terra-cotta pipe and nearly five miles of brick sewers, will

likely be constructed in the near future. In connection with this a disposal plant will be provided of the intermittent filtration system through cinder. The estimated cost of the sewers will be \$302,800 and of the disposal plant \$55,000, making a total of \$357,800.

The electric railway system comprises eleven and a half miles of track in the city, with fifteen and a half miles in process of construction and to be completed by July 1, 1901, in two auxiliary lines, one to Dover and the other to Dallastown. The passengers carried in 1900 numbered 1,617,615. The community is indebted to the managers of this system, not only for a completely equipped up-to-date railway service, but for the establishment of a near-by summer resort called Highland Park, pleasantly located on an elevated tract of woodland adjacent to Codorus Creek, affording to a population wearied by the labors of the heated summer days an opportunity to bring themselves in a few minutes and at a trifling cost

in contact with refreshing country surroundings. To this may be added, for those desiring it, the enjoyment of a dance, or, at a very small additional charge, a theatrical or operatic performance in one of the two pretty pavilions with which the park is provided.

York is satisfied with its telephone service. It has the rare advantage of competition. The telephone monopoly is perhaps peculiar in this,—that the larger the town and the more telephones there are to be operated at a consequent less cost for each, the higher the price charged for their use. The rental of telephones with us formerly was \$60 a year in business places. Competition immediately reduced this to one-half and less, while for a residence a phone may now be had at a cost of \$6.00 a year. One of the two rival companies has 1700 telephones in service and the other about 1000, and the business of the old company alone several times exceeds that which it enjoyed before com-



CODORUS CREEK AT HIGHLAND PARK

petition was established. Our sympathy is extended to the people of other cities who have not yet been able to throw off this most unreasonable and most absurd of monopolies.

The assessed valuation of the real estate in the city was \$10,642,825 in 1890.* By 1900 this had increased to \$16,918,479, the increase being \$6,275,624. The entire tax rates for all purposes for the period from

*Assessed value of real estate for city purposes:		
Wards.	1890.	1900.
1.	\$1,118,360	\$1,580,595
2.	1,501,755	1,887,047
3.	1,219,535	1,438,735
4.	1,201,775	1,693,516
5.	515,505	624,472
6.	1,017,185	1,533,947
7.	769,320	902,783
8.	544,660	908,392
9.	1,107,685	1,986,107
10.	551,390	760,417
11.	1,095,685	1,868,065
12.		1,384,008
13.		350,395
	<hr/> \$10,642,855	<hr/> \$16,918,479

1890 to 1901 inclusive, averaged just about $15\frac{1}{2}$ mills,* the city rate for the entire period being seven mills. The assessed value is low and the tax rate for all purposes we believe to be lower than in any town of its size in the United States. If there is one as well governed at as little cost we do not know of it. The entire appropriations for city purposes for the year 1890 were \$107,-
547.**

*Following are the tax rates of all kinds within the city each year from 1890 to 1901, inclusive:

			State and	
	City.	School.	County.	Total.
1890	7	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	15
1891	7	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	14
1892	7	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4	$14\frac{1}{2}$
1893	7	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4	$14\frac{1}{2}$
1894	7	$5\frac{1}{2}$	4	$16\frac{1}{2}$
1895	7	4	4	15
1896	7	$4\frac{1}{2}$	4	$15\frac{1}{2}$
1897	7	$4\frac{1}{2}$	4	$15\frac{1}{2}$
1898	7	5	4	16
1899	7	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{4}$	16
1900	7	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	17
1901	7	5	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$16\frac{3}{4}$

**The appropriations to the several departments

To an outsider one of the notable features of the city is the low rentals. Eight room houses, generally brick, within easy distance from manufacturing plants, cost from nine to ten dollars a month, or if fitted with the so-called modern conveniences about two dollars a month more. The same houses in Philadelphia, less pleasantly and less conveniently located, would doubtless cost twenty-five to thirty dollars a month.

The surprise is that factories in large cities

of the city government for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1900, with a tax rate of seven mills were as follows:

Finance,	\$15,322
Police,	18,630
Highways,	16,200
Light,	21,000
Fire,	12,850
Sanitary, (including garbage removal and cremation.)	5,540
Supplies,	1,500
Water,	1,500
Survey,	1,700
Market,	150
Accounts,	6,350
Health,	730
Miscellaneous,	6,075
 Total,	 \$107,547

can survive at all in competition with those of the smaller towns where cost of living in different ways is so much less and where in consequence wages are greatly less, and yet the laborer relatively better paid. Taking into consideration the comparative cost of living it would seem inevitable that the large cities must in the next decade decline as manufacturing centers in favor of the smaller towns. Indeed, it would appear that a drift in that direction has already assumed strong proportions. If so, it is a most fortunate circumstance, for, much as large cities may childishly desire to boast of the great number of their inhabitants, the body politic is more healthy and the general welfare of the people is best subserved when population is well distributed. Rather than create a greater New York it were far better to promote the development of a number of lesser Yorks.

The financial strength and growth of our city is revealed by an examination of its fi-

nancial institutions. The deposits in 1890 in the various incorporated banks and trust companies were \$2,311,941.28; in 1900 it was \$5,266,553.35, an increase in ten years exceeding 125 per cent. The capital, surplus and undivided profits in the same institutions was in 1890 \$2,405,019.74, and in 1900 \$2,893,923.94.* In 1900 the capital stock per capita was \$86 and the deposits per capita \$156, or, including private banks, about \$171, an amount almost unexampled. To the aggregate deposits above mentioned should be added about \$500,000 in three private banks. In addition the city has eleven local building and loan associations.

Though the fire department is under the supervision of the city and supported it, yet the firemen, with the exception of the drivers, are volunteers. Great pride is taken in

*The capital, surplus, undivided profits and deposits of the several banks and trust companies of the city, exclusive of three private banks, as shown by the official sworn statements are as indicated in the following table:

this department. We know of none better

	CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS		DEPOSITS.	
	1890	1900	1890	1900
York National Bank.....	\$ 617,197.03	\$ 717,417.29	\$ 246,469.42	\$ 755,277.36
York Co. National Bank.	423,007.06	460,962.86	620,174.49	698,842.88
First National Bank.....	442,281.85	451,358.93	453,391.03	1,197,663.57
Farmers National Bank..	321,488.23	346,136.84	274,437.82	311,471.23
Drovers & MechanicsN.B.	130,503.75	163,074.13	233,345.97	420,384.01
Western National Bank..	209,955.37	201,287.84	227,326.87	287,445.40
City Bank.....	129,936.45	163,045.74	206,443.04	410,978.58
York Trust Company.....	130,650.00	180,035.82	50,352.64	522,727.22
Security Title & Trust Co.	.....	220,613.44	.....	660,799.10
Totals.....	\$2,405,019.74	\$2,893,932.94	\$2,311,941.28	\$5,266,553.35

equipped with fine modern steam and chemical engines, hose carriages, handsome and powerful horses, and commodious and well kept engine houses, or better adapted to keeping down the rate of insurance.*

The traveling public can take its choice of the hospitality of the Colonial Hotel, a fine six story and basement structure, erected on historic soil at the southwest corner of Cen-

*The fire alarm telegraph system includes twenty-eight miles of wire and forty-one alarm stations. In 1900 there were nineteen fires requiring a general alarm and thirty-seven slight fires requiring only silent alarms for a chemical engine. The loss for the year from fire was \$22,849.80. When it is remembered that the assessed value of real estate of the city is \$16,918,479, and that a considerable portion of the loss must have been on personal property, it would appear that it was probably little, if any, more than one-tenth of one per cent. of the value of the property insured. The rates of stock company insurance, though not higher than elsewhere, are from two and a half to many times that amount, varying with the nature of the risk. Quaere:—Are York people paying too much for insurance? They are paying approximately \$100,000 a year.

tre Square, with accommodations for 200 guests, or the National or Royal, or anyone of the remaining twenty-eight hotels of the city. Those fond of theatrical entertainments will find them at the local opera house, or in summer at the Highland Park pavilion.

While the Lafayette, York and Bachelor Clubs, and fourteen other like social organizations supply the devotees of club life with the peculiar enjoyments and comforts which are to their liking, and the Country Club and Outdoor Club minister to both the physical and social well being of their members, those whose unselfish and enobling pleasure it is to promote the spiritual, moral and physical well-being of their fellow mortals, find abundant opportunities, not only in connection with the numerous churches of the city, but also in needed and well appreciated aid to such institutions as the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the York Hospital, the Florence Crittenton



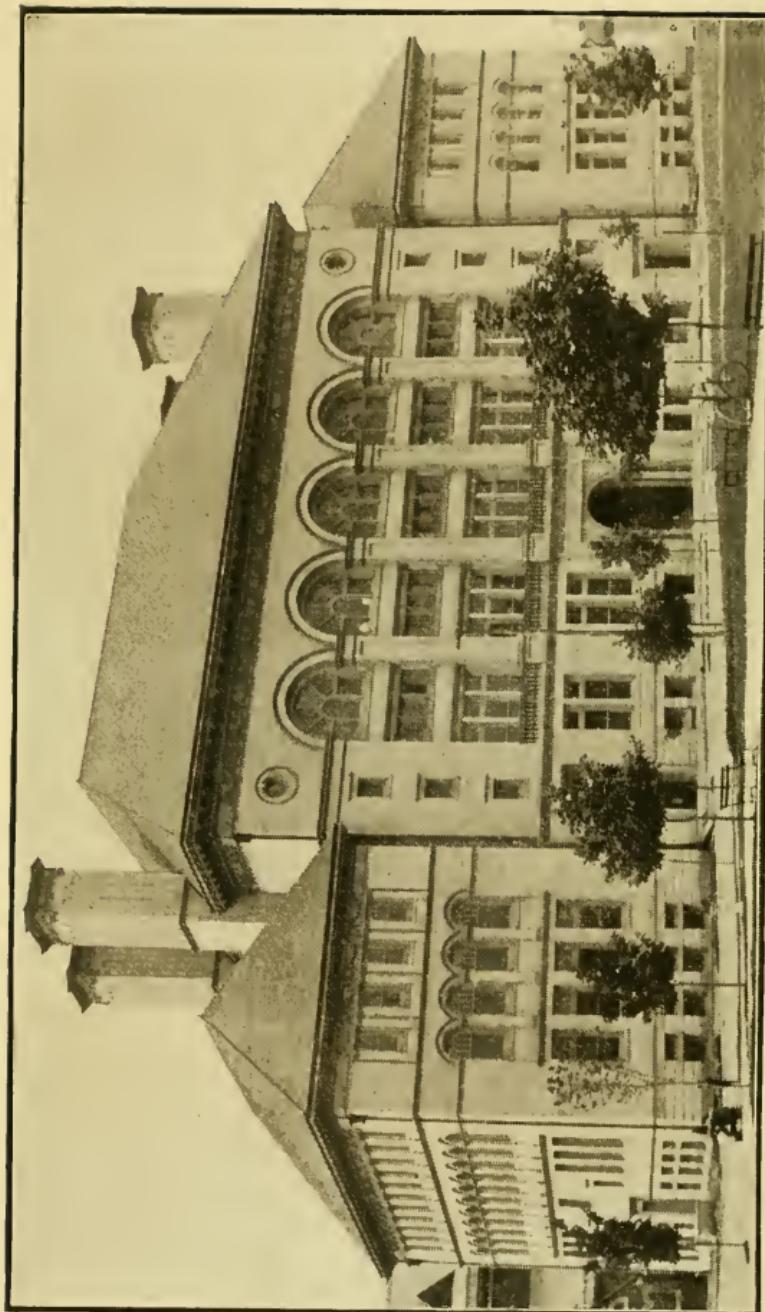
ON LINDEN AVENUE

Home, the York Benevolent Association and the Orphans' Home, all of which are successfully conducted under active and efficient management.

The development of our public schools in the period from 1890 to 1900, is a matter of extraordinary and, indeed, of grave interest. In their keeping in large measure rests the welfare of coming generations. The hope of the republic lies in the public school system. The importance of healthful, attractive and well appointed buildings is great. Of even greater importance is the employment of instructors wedded to their work, specially skilled to impart knowledge and afford their pupils proper mental training and at the same time capable of implanting within them moral backbone and instilling them with generous thoughts and lofty purposes. The falsest kind of false economy lies in illiberality in judicious expenditure of money in support of public schools. In the present generation of York fulfilling its trust?

The figures show that from 1890 to 1900, the schools in operation increased from 59 to 110, the number of buildings from 12 to 22, the number of teachers from 64 to 128, the number of pupils from 3209 to 5774 and the value of school property from \$181,000 to \$518,070. In 1890 there were expended for operating the public schools \$33,479.70 and in 1900, \$64,296.39. The amount consumed for construction purposes in 1890 was \$4,832.82 and in 1900, \$60,761.16. This showing is gratifying more particularly in respect to the great improvements in school buildings. Further liberality as to the amount paid for services of efficient teachers would be commendable. Unfortunately it has hitherto seemed almost impracticable to regulate salaries altogether in accordance with real efficiency, but it must be remembered that with competent teachers it is the salary that attracts as in the case of other people, and the higher the salaries paid the better the final results will be. No commun-

YORK HIGH SCHOOL



ity will have the ideal public school (and this ideal in the nature of the case must be a high one) until salaries shall be attached to the services sufficient to induce our brightest and best men and women to prepare for entering the work with the deliberate intent of making it a life occupation and not a mere temporary makeshift or a stepping stone until something better turns up to carry them off to more lucrative employments.

Besides the public schools we have the York Collegiate Institute, an excellent school well conducted by its able president and a body of efficient assistants. The York County Academy, an institution of historical interest of which Colonel Thomas Hartley, of revolutionary fame, was one of the promoters, has exercised a potent influence upon the county and its people for more than a century and is still prosperous. Two parochial schools, one Catholic and the other German Lutheran, and a number of other pri-

vate schools lend their quota to the education of the young.

The tables on succeeding pages show census statistics for ten characteristic industries of the city of York, also the totals for a group of industries classed as building trades. (Fifth item.) They also contain the statistics of the remaining industries grouped. (Last item.) Establishments having an output of less than \$500 are excluded, as are also all establishments not within the corporate limits of the city. It is well to note that these statistics do not give the total number of persons employed within the year, but the results as to this matter are averages simply and are designed as nearly as possible to give the constant number employed.

As illustrating the disparity between the census figures and the present actual status, it may be mentioned that the employees in the four establishments engaged in manufacturing agricultural implements, number at this time (April, 1901,) about 600, instead of

314 as given in the table. This is due in part, at least, to general increase of business in the past year. Another illustration is found in the case of carriage and wagon factories, three concerns, two within and one without the city limits, employing at this time 655 men. The employees in one candy factory number about 500 at one season of the year.

In connection with these tables it should be noted that capital aggregating \$1,615,000 is employed at this time by sixteen manufacturing establishments not included in the census reports pertaining to York, some of these being located in the immediate vicinity of the city but without the corporate limits, and some constructed since the census was taken and now in operation or about to be operated within the city boundaries.



INDUSTRIES.	No. of establish- ments reporting.	Capital invested.	Number of proprietors and firm members.	Salaries.	SALARIES EMPLOYEES.
ALL INDUSTRIES.....	464	\$9,674,684	566	408	\$442,951
Agricultural implements.....	4	334,410	3	35	26,278
Boxes, cigar.....	6	231,711	12	8	6,136
Bread and other bakery products.....	24	154,820	26	17	12,749
Building trades (see page 71)	43	227,080	50	6	2,908
Carriages and wagons.....	11	473,925	16	23	15,724
Confectionery.....	20	178,253	21	15	24,757
Foundry and machine shop products.....	11	2,544,619	20	62	63,030
Iron and steel, nails and spikes, cut and wrought, including wire nails.....	4	264,941	3	16	13,582
Lumber, planing mill products, including sash, doors and blinds.....	6	420,060	13	3	2,250
Paper and pulp.....	3	154,358	7	4	3,176
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	48	644,097	56	23	56,270
TOTAL FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES.....	180	\$5,628,274	227	212	\$226,860
All other industries (see page 71)	284	4,046,410	339	196	216,091

York County

67

INDUSTRIES.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF WAGE EARNERS AND TOTAL WAGES.							
	Total.	Men, 16 years and over.		Women, 16 yrs. and over.		Children un- der 16 yrs.		
		A. V. No.	Wages. No.	A. V. No.	Wages. No.			
		A. V. No.	Wages. No.	A. V. No.	Wages. No.	A. V. No.		
ALL INDUSTRIES.....	7,687	\$2,637,781	5,711	\$2,249,082	1,501	\$329,893	475	\$58,806
Agricultural implements.....	314	\$ 112,141	310	\$ 111,573	·	·	4	\$ 568
Boxes, cigar.....	171	42,904	65	22,446	103	\$19,990	3	468
Bread and other bakery products.....	215	61,312	160	52,099	17	3,072	38	6,141
Building trades.....	413	168,940	396	166,577	·	·	17	2,363
Carriages and wagons.....	305	95,090	299	93,740	3	·	3	725
Confectionery.....	293	58,373	70	25,394	149	23,126	74	9,853
Foundry and machine shop products.....	1,591	661,779	1,568	658,931	·	·	23	2,848
Iron and steel, nails and spikes, cut and wrought, including wire nails,.....	344	115,061	334	113,614	1	150	9	1,297
Lumber, planing mill products, includ- ing sash, doors and blinds.....	281	115,625	278	115,200	·	·	3	425
Paper and pulp.....	50	30,862	49	30,706	·	·	1	156
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.....	1131	324,539	618	205,372	470	114,248	43	4,919
Total for selected industries 5,108		\$1,786,626	4,147	\$1,595,652	743	\$161,211	218	\$29,763
All other industries.....	2,579	851,155	1,564	653,430	758	168,682	257	29,043

INDUSTRIES.	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.		
	Total.	Rent of works	All other.
	Cost of materials used.	Value of products, including receipts from customers and work done and repairing.	\$114,671 \$11,955,836
ALL INDUSTRIES.....	\$789,688	\$50,839	\$738,849
Agricultural Implements.....	9,721	750	\$ 8,971
Boxes, cigar.....	4,343	300	4,043
Bread and other bakery products.....	19,653	1,883	17,770
Building trades.....	44,461	3,839	40,622
Carriages and wagons.....	19,125	1,215	17,910
Confectionery.....	18,033	1,305	16,728
Foundry and machine shop products.....	151,026	329	150,697
Iron and steel, nails and spikes, cut and wrought, including wire nails.	8,755	800	7,955
Lumber, planing mill products, including sash, doors and blinds.....	8,786	...	8,786
Paper and pulp.....	8,090	2,250	5,840
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.....	191,237	3,175	188,062
TOTAL FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES.	\$483,230	\$15,846	\$467,384
All other industries.....	306,458	34,993	271,465
			2,219,239
			4,475,816

INDUSTRIES.	No. employees	ESTABLISHMENTS GROUPED BY NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES.					
		Under 5.	5 to 20.	21 to 50.	51 to 100.	101 to 250.	251 to 500.
ALL INDUSTRIES	87	182	113	44	17	20	3
Agricultural implements.....	.....	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....
Boxes, cigar.....	.....	1	1	3	1	.....	.....
Bread and other bakery products.....	3	10	8	1	2	.....	.....
Building trades.....	4	18	16	5	.....	.....	.....
Carriages and wagons.....	.....	2	6	.....	2	1	.....
Confectionery	5	8	5	1	.....	1	2
Foundry and machine shop products.....	.....	5	.....	1	.....	3	.....
Iron and steel, nails and spikes, cut and wrought, including wire nails.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	3	.....
Lumber, planing mill products, including sash, doors and blinds.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	1	1
Paper and pulp .....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.....	5	15	15	6	4	2	1
TOTAL FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES	17	60	54	22	11	12	2
All other industries.....	70	122	59	22	6	8	1

INDUSTRIES.	COMPARISON OF PRODUCTS.				
	POWER USED.	No. of establish- ments reporting q.	Horse power.	Establishment, its reporting both years.	Value for cen- sus year.
ALL INDUSTRIES	150	6,841	411	\$10,933,869	\$10,246,786
Agricultural implements	4	218	4	407,517	378,190
Boxes, cigar	6	92	6	223,774	203,000
Bread and other bakery products	4	67	21	453,762	438,191
Building trades	3	78	41	577,981	534,700
Carriages and wagons	4	193	9	430,128	458,000
Confectionery	12	209	20	419,397	439,360
Foundry and machine shop products	9	1,293	9	2,652,572	2,377,346
Iron and steel, nails and spikes, cut and wrought, including wire nails	4	862	3	267,669	220,348
Lumber, planing mill products, includ- ing sash, doors and blinds	6	390	4	205,500	197,000
Paper and pulp	3	810	1	37,895	38,296
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	4	28	40	1,119,136	1,047,887
TOTAL FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES	59	4,240	158	\$6,795,331	\$ 6,332,318
All other industries	91	2,601	253	4,138,538	3,914,468

The item designated as "Building Trades" in the foregoing tables embraces the following:

Carpentering,	3
Masonry, brick and stone,	4
Painting, house, sign, etc.,	12
Paper hanging,	1
Plastering and stucco work,	4
Plumbing and gas fitting,	19

The item designated as "All other Industries" in the same tables, is made up of the following:

<i>Industries.</i>	<i>Establishments.</i>
Awnings, tents and sails,	1
Baskets and rattan and willow ware,	9
Bicycle and tricycle repairing,	8
Blacking.	1
Blacksmithing and wheelwrighting,	16
Bookbinding and blank book making,	2
Boots and shoes, custom work and repairing.	41
Bottling,	4
Boxes, fancy and paper,	1
Boxes, wooden, packing,	1
Brick and tile,	4
Brooms and brushes,	5
Carpets, rag,	5
Carriage and wagon materials,	4
Cars and general shop, construction and re-pairs by steam railroad companies,	2
Cleansing and polishing preparations,	1
Clothing, men's custom work and repairing,	22
Clothing, men's factory product,	1
Clothing, women's dressmaking,	4

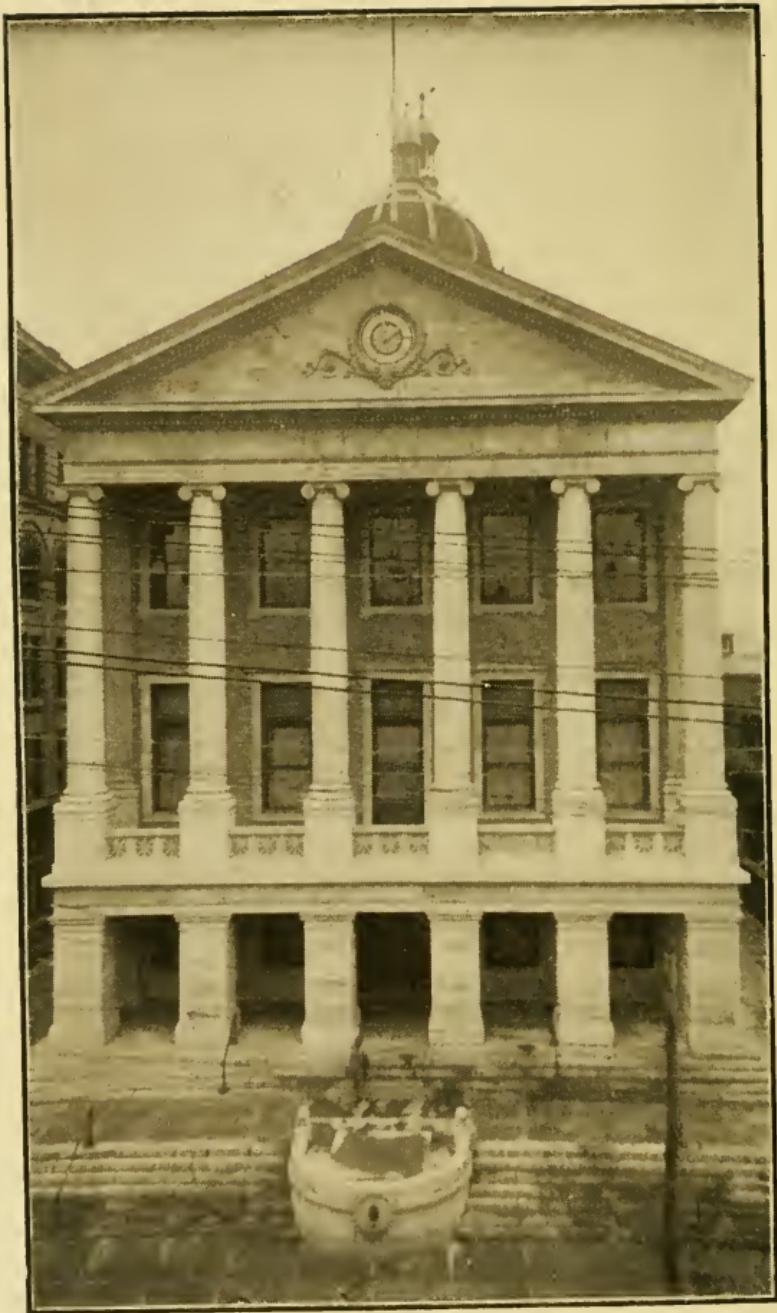
Clothing, women's factory product,	1
Cooperage,	4
Dentists' materials,	1
Dyeing and cleaning,	1
Electrical apparatus and supplies,	1
Electrical construction and repairs,	2
Fertilizers,	1
Files,	1
Flouring and grist mill products,	4
Furnishing goods, men's,	1
Furniture, cabinet making, repairing, and upholstering,	6
Furniture, factory product,	3
Gas, illuminating and heating,	1
Hardware, saddlery,	1
Hats and caps, not including wool hats,	1
Hosiery and knit goods,	1
Ice, artificial,	2
Ironwork, architectural and ornamental,	1
Kaolin and other earth grinding,	1
Lime and cement,	6
Liquors, malt,	2
Lock and gun smithing,	4
Looking glass and picture frames,	3
Lumber and timber products,	1
Malt,	1
Marble and stone work,	3
Mattresses and spring beds,	2
Millinery, custom work,	11
Mineral and soda waters,	1
Models and patterns,	1
Monuments and tombstones,	3

Musical instruments, organs and materials,	2
Paper hangings,	2
Patent medicines and compounds,	4
Paving and paving materials,	2
Photography,	5
Printing and publishing, book and job,	11
Printing and publishing, newspapers and periodicals,	7
Saddlery and harness,	8
Safes and vaults,	1
Shirts,	4
Silk and silk goods,	2
Soap and candles,	1
Steam fittings and heating apparatus,	1
Stereotyping and electrotyping,	1
Tinsmithing, coppersmithing, and sheet iron working,	11
Tobacco, chewing, smoking and snuff,	1
Umbrellas and canes,	1
Washing machines and clothes wringers,	1
Watch, clock and jewelry repairing,	13
Wirework, including wire rope and cable,	2

The churches of the city are distributed among the various denominations as follows:

African Methodist Episcopal,	2
Baptist,	4
Catholic,	2
Church of God,	2
Evangelical,	1
Friends,	1
Reformed,	6

Hebrew,	3
Lutheran,	10
Methodist Episcopal,	5
Moravian,	3
Presbyterian,	4
Protestant Episcopal,	3
United Brethren,	5
United Evangelical,	3



YORK COUNTY COURT HOUSE

YORK COUNTY

A Brief Outline of its History

The three original counties of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester, were established by William Penn in 1682. Lancaster County was organized in 1729 from a part of Chester, and York County, which at first included what is now known as Adams, was formed from part of Lancaster by act of the general assembly passed August 19, 1749, the boundaries named being the Maryland line, the Susquehanna river and the ridge of South mountain. Adams County was erected out of the western part of York in 1800.

Sturdy settlers from the Rhenish Palatinate and their descendants were the first to conquer the primeval forests of the larger

portion of York County. Following the general course of Kreutz, Codorus and Little Conewago creeks, and seeking out the easily cultivated valley lands tributary to them, they gradually extended their habitations in a broad belt entirely across the central portions of the county from northeast to southwest. Frugal, industrious, peaceably inclined, and guided largely by religious impulses, they were of the material that promotes prosperity and fosters that conservative yet progressive stability which characterizes their descendants.

The southeastern and extreme northwest-
ern sections of the county, as well as most
of the territory included within the limits of
Adams County, were settled principally by
that intelligent, vigorous and energetic peo-
ple known as Scotch-Irish. Only such a
people could have grown prosperous under
the adverse conditions which confronted
them and wrested wealth from the unwilling
soil of the York Barrens, which after several

generations of toil and cultivation are now unexcelled in productiveness by any other portion of the State of Pennsylvania.

No less fitted for the task before them were the members of the Society of Friends, mostly English, who settled in the northern portion of the county and a small section along the Maryland line, about ten miles from the Susquehanna river.

It may therefore be safely said that York County with respect to the character of its people began with a firm foundation. Our progenitors were people who thought for themselves, whether Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, German Lutherans, Reformed, Menonites, or Moravians, or English Quakers, they were for the most part men and women who had come to this country seeking a place where they might worship God after their own religious light. Religious persecution drove to the shores of America the best blood of Europe. Such refugees were welcomed by the founders of Pennsylvania,

and it was at the express invitation of William Penn that the German immigration to Pennsylvania began. How important was the matter of religious liberty to these people, is witnessed by the fact that the very first law passed by the provincial assembly was "The Law concerning Liberty of Conscience."

The settlement of York County by Caucasians, under sanction of the provincial authorities in Pennsylvania, began in the spring of 1729 when John and James Hendricks located near Kreutz creek on land previously occupied by so-called Maryland intruders, who had been removed at the request of the Indians. Among the first pioneers was John Wright, Jr., who supplied the name for the Susquehanna river town, Wrightsville, which in 1790 came near being adopted as the permanent capital of the nation.

Sir William Keith while lieutenant governor of the province took up a considerable tract among the hills of Newberry and start-

ed there a colony of Friends. A survey of 500 acres of the tract was made in 1722. In 1747 the first Friends' monthly meeting house was erected in Warrington in the northern part of the county. A settlement of English Quakers was early established among the Pigeon Hills, near the site of Hanover, though little trace of these seems now to remain.

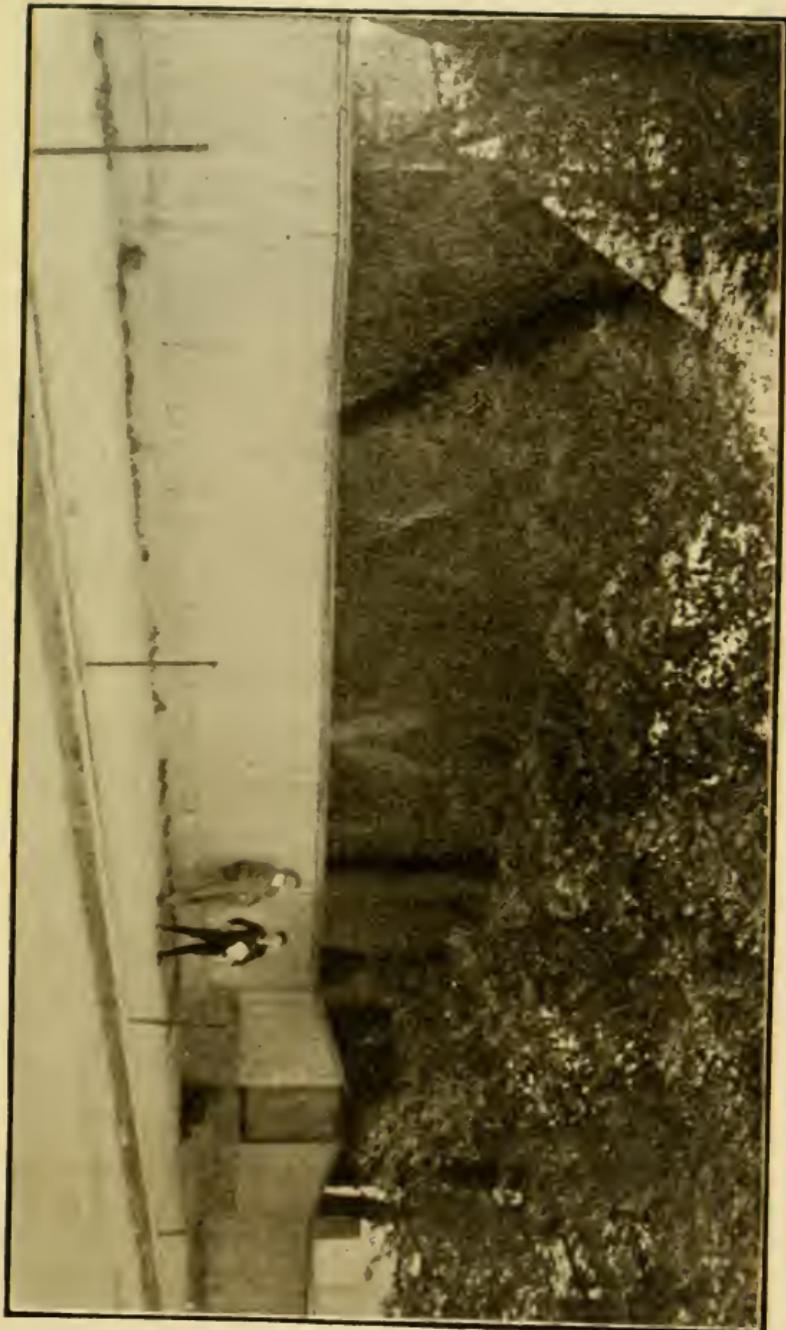
Glossbrenner, in his history of York County, very interestingly relates of the early German inhabitants of the Kreutz creek region that they were "clothed for some years in tow cloth, as wool was an article not to be obtained. Their dress was simple, consisting of a shirt, trousers and a frock. During the heat of summer a shirt and trousers of tow formed the only raiment of the inhabitants. In the fall the tow frock was added. When the cold winter was before the door and Boreas came rushing from the north, the dress was adapted to the season by increasing the number of frocks so that in the coldest part of the winter some of the

sturdy settlers were wrapped in four, five and even more frocks, which men bound closely around their loins." Later tow began to be mixed with wool, then cotton appeared and even linsey woolsey came to be worn by those who could afford to be extravagant.

In 1694 the Seneca-Susquehanna Indians granted to Col. Thomas Dongan, agent for William Penn, the land on both sides of the Susquehanna river, apparently including all of York county. Dongan conveyed to Penn January 3, 1696. This was ratified by a deed direct to Penn from the chiefs of the Susquehannas in 1700, and still further ratification was made the succeeding year by Connodaghtah, another of their principal chiefs. Col. Dongan, at the time of the transfer to him, was Governor of New York and his services were enlisted because some of the five nations, chiefly the Cayugas, located in New York, claimed to have an interest in these Pennsylvania lands, the Indians along the Susquehanna being but a branch of their

FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE

ERECTED 1776, ENLARGED 1783



tribe. This was simply in accord with Penn's uniform practice to treat peaceably with the Indians instead of unwarrantably taking their lands by force. Disputes subsequently arose as to Penn's title from the Indians but final relinquishment of all claims was afterwards made by the chiefs of the five nations and of the Mohawks, to John, Thomas and Richard Penn, the heirs of William Penn.

William Penn obtained his title to Pennsylvania from the British crown in 1682, and for seventy years thereafter the boundary line between that province and Maryland was a source of almost constant dispute. While the territory in controversy was large in extent yet the turmoil and actual conflict of authority seems to have centered at Wrightsville and the region some miles to the west and south. The trouble grew out of ignorance as to the location of the 40th degree of latitude in the western continent.

The grant to Penn described the province of Pennsylvania as bounded on the north by

the beginning of the 43d degree (42d parallel) north latitude, and “on the south by a circle drawn at twelve miles distance from Newcastle, northward and westward unto the beginning of the 40th degree of north latitude and thence by a straight line westward,” etc. The original Maryland grant was made to Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, in 1632, and was merely for the unoccupied part of Virginia from the Potomac northward, a very indefinite description. A confirmation of the original patent in 1661 refers to Maryland as including a certain part of the peninsula east of the Chesapeake bay, “which lieth under the 40th degree of north latitude from the equinoctial and, all that tract of land from the aforesaid bay of Delaware in a right line by the degree aforesaid to the true meridian of the first fountain of the river Potomack.”

The intent seems to have been to grant to Penn a stretch of country three degrees wide immediately north of Lord Baltimore’s grant. The “beginning of the 40th

degree, which is the 39th parallel of latitude, was designated as the southern boundary, and consistently with this Maryland was referred to in the grant to Lord Baltimore as "under the 40th degree," (39th parallel) "of north latitude." Strange to say the 39th parallel lies some miles south of Baltimore and more than thirty-five miles south of the nearest possible point of the New-castle circle. Neither does the 40th parallel touch this circle. Evidently the 39th parallel was not the intended boundary, but what was? East of the Susquehanna the Maryland authorities seem to have made little or no contention for lands north of the mouth of Octararo creek, which is some four or five miles south of the Mason and Dixon Line, but to the west of that river they rather inconsistently attempted to exercise jurisdiction in making land grants even so far north as Sir William Keith's land of Newberry, for in 1722, one Philip Syng claimed that this land belonged to him under a Maryland survey.

The Marylanders, however, took no determined stand further north than the region of Wrightsville. Thomas Cressap under authority and with the support and encouragement of the Maryland governor, located at a point on the Susquehanna about three miles below Wrightsville in a stone structure, as much a fort as a house, the massive foundation or support of which (it has at least in part burned when Cressap was arrested in 1736 by Pennsylvania authority), is still to be seen on a farm in Windsor Township, now belonging to George W., David F. and Thos. J. Maish, and occupied by John L. Detweiler. Here and hereabouts, Cressap, who was of a violent and turbulent disposition and a leader among his people, held forth for years to the terror of the peace-loving Germans.

These people hardly knowing who were the rightful proprietors of the lands they occupied, though they originally acquired their rights to them as Pennsylvania territory, yet were later induced to recognize Maryland

authority but subsequently, becoming convinced of their error, of their own free will resumed their allegiance to Pennsylvania in the summer of 1736 and candidly stated the fact in a communication to the governor of Maryland, dated August 11th of that year. This instrument was signed by sixty of their number and in it they complained bitterly of the treatment they had received from the hands of those placed in authority over them. This brought forth an invasion by an armed force of Maryland militia variously estimated at from 200 to 300 men, no small number in those days, commanded by Col. Nathaniel Rigby and the sheriff of Baltimore county. With loud alarum and beat of drums they proceeded as far north as the houses of John Hendricks and John Wright, Jr., but seeing three flat-boat loads of Pennsylvanians approaching from the east side of the river they marched towards them, fired a blunderbuss and then retreated to Cressap's, much to that ruffian's discomfiture, and finally to

Maryland, a rather diminutive ending to so demonstrative an undertaking. It may well be surmised that the expedition was a bluff from the beginning, the purpose being to accomplish by parade and show of strength what they scarcely dared attempt by actual bloodshed against the king's loyal subjects. When they found that these people of Pennsylvania could actually be driven to fight in self defense they discovered that their mission was at an end. Uncertainty on the part of those in authority as to the correctness and justness of their claims about the boundary must have appeared as a further deterrent to the most strenuous measures. Just here it may be noted that the proprietors of the two provinces had in 1732 entered into a solemn agreement to have the boundary line surveyed but Lord Baltimore had sought an excuse for not fulfilling the contract and refused to let the survey be made. A suit in equity had been commenced in 1735 in England to compel him to

do so. It was decided in favor of the Penns, but not until 1750.

About two months after the disappearance of Colonel Rigby and his band it was discovered that a plot was being concocted by Edward Munday, Edward Leet and Charles Higginbotham and others to dispossess the Germans west of the Susquehanna and take up their lands, and instructions were issued by Governor Ogle, of Maryland, to the deputy surveyor to lay out two hundred acres for each of the three named and forty-nine others. The conspiracy was discovered in time to secure the arrest of the ring leaders, Munday and Leet. Higginbotham escaped, and after the arrest of Cressap, November 23, 1836, he was appointed justice of the peace and captain of militia by Governor Ogle. He proved more formidable even than his predecessor in acts of violence, and gathered about him a lot of adventurers, twenty-five in number. They established themselves in Cressap's guard house, a staunchly built

structure, as its remaining supports fully attest, whence they sallied forth as it suited them and attacked the farmers, broke open their doors with axes, arrested them, and in fact subjected them to all kinds of annoyance designed to secure plunder and drive them from the country or into submission to Maryland authority. Samuel Blunston, in a letter written at the time, related that six men were engaged in preparing a grave for a child when they were attacked by Higginbotham and his men and carried off to Annapolis and that this event so terrified the rest that they had all left their homes and gone across the river, leaving none on the west side but the women and children except Joshua Minshall and John Wright, Jr., and at the house of the latter they were keeping a garrison. Minshall was attacked in his bed and was carried off a prisoner. A force under the Lancaster county sheriff was sent to oppose the marauders, but, it seems, with no considerable results.

UNDERGROUND IN CRESSAP'S FORT



Throughout these border troubles one cannot but feel that the Pennsylvanians sought to be fair. The Marylanders, to say the least, threw themselves open to suspicion of seeking to worry a sect of people whose principles and practices had been opposed to war and bloodshed. Time and again the governor and counsel of Pennsylvania sought to secure from the Maryland governor a temporary adjustment of the boundary question pending the termination of the suit in England. They were as often met with protestations of like desires to end the troubles, but some excuse was always found for not agreeing to anything.

Finally the distressing state of affairs having been presented to the king, a royal order, assented to by both parties to the controversy, was promulgated in 1738, directing that pending a final determination of the location of the boundary line, those occupying lands in the disputed territory should continue to recognize the jurisdiction which they

previously acknowledged and that, as to unoccupied lands, jurisdiction should be maintained by the respective parties on each side of a temporary line which the order directed to be run. This line was surveyed in 1739. On the west bank of the Susquehanna it lay at a marked hickory tree, and one-fifth of a mile south of the Mason and Dixon line. This latter was run and marked by limestone fixed in the ground at intervals of one mile during the years 1760 to 1768 inclusive, all litigation on the subject not having been completed until the former year.

During the first forty years of the history of the province white people had not been permitted to settle west of the Susquehanna lest the Indians should feel their rights were being encroached upon, for they had been assured of "a full scope and liberty in their settlements from the Christian inhabitants." When the Marylanders sought to take possession of the lands in what was considered to be Pennsylvania territory the Indians be-

came alarmed and sought assistance against them, and in order to furnish a further bulwark against the expected invaders, it was suggested to the Indians that a manor be surveyed for Springett Penn, then supposed to be heir to Wm. Penn's rights.

To this they consented and such a survey was accordingly made in 1722 by virtue of the provision in the original grant to William Penn whereby there was reserved to the proprietor and his heirs ten thousand out of each hundred thousand acres. This it was that gave rise to the existence of Springetsbury manor. This original survey located the manor immediately south of Kieth's tract, beginning about the latitude of Wrightsville and extending into Chanceford township. The draft of this survey was either designedly or through negligence lost or mislaid and a second survey was completed in 1768, this time, much to the advantage of the proprietors, comprising a tract approximately six miles wide and ex-

tending about fifteen miles due west from the Susquehanna river including the site of the city of York at its west centre. Hence it is that all titles to real estate within the limits mentioned came through the heirs of William Penn, and hence it is that the Commons, now called Penn Park, in the city of York were conveyed by the heirs of William Penn in 1816 to the Borough of York, the title to that particular tract having remained in them up to that time.

Another of these tracts called the Manor of Maske was laid off in the western part of York county. Its greatest length and breadth were respectively about twelve and six miles. It is now within the limits of Adams county, extends to within about half a mile of the Maryland line and includes, at its eastern limits, the borough of Gettysburg. After the revolution the legislature enacted a law divesting the title of the Penns, obtained by the original grant to Wm. Penn,

in all lands in the commonwealth excepting their manor lands.

The town of York dates from 1741, when a survey of it was made by Thos. Cookson, showing an area of $437\frac{1}{2}$ acres (this was reduced to 421 acres and 37 1-10 perches by a survey 27 years later) and 23 lots were taken up in November of that year. No more were taken until March, 1746, at which time 44 were disposed of. From 1748 to 1751 the place grew rapidly, for in 1749 it became a county seat. The purchaser of a lot was required to build "a substantial dwelling house with the dimensions of 16 feet square at least, with a good chimney of brick or stone to be laid in or built of lime or sand, within the space of one year from the time of his entry for the same," and to pay seven shillings annually to the proprietors, Richard and Thomas Penn. Many lots were forfeited for a failure to fulfill the conditions so that on April 10, 1751, it would seem, there were buildings on but 50 lots properly

taken up and three of those were churches, two German Lutheran and one German Reformed. Much of the town was still forest land and complaints were made that persons without authority were cutting the timber from unoccupied land for burning brick. At the time of the revolution this forest village had grown to be second only to Lancaster among the inland towns of the country. In 1787, it was incorporated as a borough and one century later, April 4, 1887, started its career under a city government with a population of about 20,000, having received its charter as a city January 11th of the same year.

The struggle between the English and French for possession of the vast region lying between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi and between the Great Lakes and the Ohio river, known as the French and Indian war, seriously disturbed the peace of the citizens of York county. The defeat of Braddock, July 9, 1755, gave the French and

their Indian allies full sway in Western Pennsylvania. Among the latter those nearest our ancestral homes were the Delawares and Shawanees, who by reason of abuses in trading with them and through unjust disposition of their lands without their consent, beyond the control of Penn and his successors, had become estranged from the English and ready to listen to the blandishments of the French. They fell upon the inhabitants in the outlying districts and the innocent and helpless, as well as the strong, were alike the victims of their savagery. People in the remote portions of this county fled to the thickly settled parts of the province and numbers from Cumberland passed through York. An unavailing effort even was made to stockade the town of York. A series of Indian forts and block-houses extended from east of the Susquehanna river up the Cumberland Valley. Marsh creek, in the western part of York (now Adams) county, formed part of the western frontier and in

that locality a number of people during the progress of the war, which ended in 1760, were either killed or made prisoners. Among them was a young girl, Mary Jemison, whose career was both checkered and interesting. Her father, mother and brothers were killed. She was permitted to live with the Indians. After a time she became attached to a Delaware Indian, married him and had children. Subsequently she became the wife of a Seneca warrior, who lived to be 103 years old and died herself in 1824, still preferring to live among her adopted people.

York county was not lacking in men willing to enter the service against the Indians. George Stevenson was especially active in organizing the militia. Among the captains in the regular provincial army, composed of three battalions only, or about as many as a full regiment of today, were Hance Hamilton and David Jameson, of York county, both of whom performed distinguished services as Indian fighters and were subsequently pro-

moted to be majors. Hamilton and his men participated under Colonel Armstrong at the important defeat of the Indians at Kittanning. In addition to those in the regular service there were no less than six companies of militia in existence in the county in November, 1756, aggregating over 600 men, but none of these seem to have gone into active service. In the autumn of 1758, however, an expedition under General Forbes was organized to capture Fort Du Quesne. It consisted of the second and third battalions. The major of the former was David Jameson, and of the latter Hance Hamilton. In the command were no fewer than four York county companies captained respectively by Robert McPherson, Archibald McGrew, Thomas Hamilton and —— Armour. They took Fort Du Quesne, November 24, 1758, much to the relief of the inhabitants of the frontier.

It was in a search for liberty that our ancestors peopled this country, and when

the English Parliament, in 1765, sought to tax them without consulting them, they were quick to perceive that the power to tax is the power to destroy, and to make known the fact that they were touched at a sensitive point. Resistance was prompt and spontaneous throughout the colonies, but the storm center was at Boston. In a short space of time the people became organized through the appointment of committees of correspondence in each State and county, resulting later in the creation of the Continental Congress. At a public meeting called for July 4, 1774, a committee for York county, including at least one member for each township, was duly elected. This committee elected for its president and vice president respectively, James Smith and Thomas Hartley, men whose names will ever remain illustrious in the history of York county, and of the nation.

James Smith was supremely the leader among us in early revolutionary times. His

FROM PEN AND INK DRAWING
BY HORACE BONHAM

CENTRE SQUARE, YORK, 1777



ability and ripe judgment (he was then past sixty) were only equaled by his zeal and enthusiasm for the cause. He was chosen to serve in numerous representative capacities, in one of which he was permitted to inscribe his name on that eternal roll of honor, the Declaration of Independence. No better expression of the patriotic fire which filled the breasts of our ancestors can be obtained than from the following extract from a letter dated April 13, 1775, probably penned by Smith, on behalf of the York county committee of correspondence to the people of Boston: "Sorry are we to hear that the hand of oppression still bears hard on your city and that the distress of your poor is not alleviated. If your sufferings could be divided the inhabitants of this county would cheerfully bear a part. This, it seems, cannot be done. Your distant town must stand the shock alone. We want words to express the high sense we have for your conduct and virtue. Few men in the world would have opposed

despotism and stood the torrent of ministerial vengeance with so much steadiness, intrepidity and resolution as the inhabitants of your own have done. You have true notions of liberty. You have purchased it. You ought to enjoy it. The noble stand made by the Massachusetts Bay, if nobly adhered to, has laid the foundation of establishing American liberty on the most firm basis." With the letter were remitted 246 pounds, 8 shillings and 10 pence as a contribution from the people of York county to assist the poor of Boston in their distress.

Almost the entire population of the county of suitable age, exclusive of the Quakers and a few Germans, whose religious sentiments forbade their bearing arms, were organized into five battalions of militia, called associates, which were subject to the call of a committee of safety for the whole province of which Benjamin Franklin was president, and Michael Swope the member from this county. On September 14, 1775, there were within

the county 3,349 of these associators and in April, 1778, the militia was composed of eight battalions, numbering 4,621. The entire population of the county, including the Marsh creek territory (Adams county) was little more than 25,000. It may be interesting at this point to note that this population included about five hundred negro slaves, but that in 1780 an act was passed which effected the gradual abolition of slavery throughout the State. The last slave in the county died in 1841.

The first Pennsylvania troops called into service were Colonel Thompson's battalion of riflemen. York county, always foremost to respond to a call of arms, furnished one of the companies. It was officered by Captain Michael Doudel and Lieutenants Henry Miller, John Dill and John Watson. It left York, July 1st. 1775, and reached Cambridge, the first troops on the ground from west of the Hudson river, July 25th, at 1 o'clock p. m., and that same day, Doudel

proposed to Washington an attack on a British transport on the Charles river. These riflemen were crack-shots and a terror to the British. It was related that when the company was forming so many men offered their services that Lieutenant Miller chalked a nose on a barn-door and declared that he would only take men who could hit it at 150 yards. Four days after its arrival this company got into a skirmish with some British regulars, killed five and took two prisoners, with a loss of one. Doudel was soon compelled to resign, because of ill health. Miller succeeded him as captain. His company was attached to the First Pennsylvania regulars, of which he became major. He was subsequently lieutenant colonel of the Second regiment, and at the advance of the British on Baltimore, in 1814, commanded a brigade.

Only an extended history of the county can attempt to refer to the various military organizations, companies and battalions, formed and re-formed in York county during

the revolution. Colonel Thomas Hartley, in a letter dated March 17, 1779, incidentally says "the York districts had armed first in Pennsylvania and had furnished more men for the war and lost a greater number of men in it than any other district on the continent of the same number of inhabitants. At Fort Washington they lost 300 men, not fifty of whom ever returned. Their distressed parents and widows daily evince the melancholy truth."

In May, 1776, a company went from York county and joined Colonel Miles' rifle regiment. In June, of the same year, congress determined to form a flying camp of 10,000 men of the middle colonies. In July, five battalions marched from York county to New Jersey, leaving the place quite deserted of men under 50 years of age. From these enough to form two battalions were retained for the flying camp, one commanded by Colonel Swope and the other by Colonel Richard McAlister. The others returned at

the end of six weeks. The purpose in having so many make the march was to furnish the militia with military experience and make a show of strength to the enemy. Colonel Swope's battalion served under Brigadier General James Ewing, of York county.

Captain Gray's company, of Swope's battalion, was captured in the battle at Long Island, only 18 men escaping to join the army again, but it was on the 16th of November, 1776, at Fort Washington, on the Hudson, that the battalion suffered the severest loss. Colonel Swope and most of his officers and men were either captured or killed.

Thomas Hartley saw much active service and held a number of commands. In January, 1777, he became a colonel of a regiment in the First Pennsylvania brigade in General Wayne's division and commanded the brigade at Brandywine and Germantown. He was complimented with the confidence and friendship of Washington both during the war, and subsequently when he served

with distinction as the first member of congress from York county. It is related of him that the commander-in-chief sent for him in the heat of an engagement, presumably at Monmouth, and said: "I have sent for you, Colonel, to employ you on a serious piece of service. The state of affairs renders it necessary that a part of this army should be sacrificed for the welfare of the whole. You command an efficient corps, a fine regiment of Germans from York and Lancaster counties. I know you well and have therefore selected you to perform this important and serious duty." He was then told to take up a certain position and defend it to the last extremity. Hartley replied: "Your Excellency does me too much honor. Your orders shall be obeyed to the letter," and repaired to his post.

York was the scene of a sad incident in May 1781. Washington was moving troops southward to join Lafayette in Virginia in opposition to Cornwallis. About 1700 men,

under General Wayne, selected from the Pennsylvania line, were ordered to York, whence they moved to the South. While here some insubordination was manifested among the troops because they had been paid off in the much depreciated paper currency of the time. In the beginning of the year there had been serious trouble from the same cause and General Wayne deemed it necessary to treat the matter radically, so twenty men were arrested and seven of them convicted by court martial and shot. The soldiers were marched past their dead bodies. This ended the trouble.

Quite large numbers of prisoners from the captured armies of both Burgoyne and Cornwallis were kept at a place about four and a half miles east of York, in Windsor township. They occupied sand huts surrounded by a stockade. Those of Burgoyne's army, the first to arrive, were allowed considerable liberty, passes being issued to them to travel the country within a

fixed area and sell articles which they themselves made. Many of them were Hessians, some of whom were led to settle permanently in the community.

York claims special distinction as the seat of the United States government from September 30, 1777, to June 27, 1778, during the dark days of the revolution, when Howe held Philadelphia and the fortitude and patriotism of Washington's army was being sorely tested at Valley Forge. The old court house in which congress held its deliberations was located on the east side of Centre Square, where it stood from 1756 to 1840.

Here John Hancock, because of broken health, resigned the presidency of congress in October, 1777, and Henry Laurens was elected in his stead. Here, at the law office of James Smith, John Adams presided over the board of war, until released to become one of the United States commissioners to France, and Thomas Payne acted as secretary to the committee on foreign affairs and

wrote some numbers of "The Crisis." Here, also died Philip Livingston, one of the delegates from New York and also a signer of the Declaration of Independence, whose remains now lie buried at Prospect Hill cemetery. Hither came Baron Steuben, the generous nobleman and accomplished German soldier, forfeiting such means as he had in Europe that he might serve the cause of liberty, offering to instruct the American army in military tactics and asking no compensation whatever excepting his personal expenses, unless the United States should succeed. Hither came the news of the capture of Burgoyne by General Gates when gloom hung over the camp fires of Washington, and here, too, was formed the famous conspiracy, known as the Conway cabal, to depose the commander in chief and replace him with General Gates. This combination is said to have become so strong that a time had even been fixed for the presentation of a resolution in congress to authorize the

arrest of Washington. The time selected was when Gouverneur Morris, one of the delegates from New York was expected to be absent, and when William Duer, another delegate from the same state, was confined to his bed with a serious illness. Both of these gentlemen were favorable to Washington and the presence of at least one of them was necessary in order that New York should be entitled to a vote. Duer inquired of his physician whether it would be possible for him to be carried alive on a litter to the court house. The physician replied that he could, but that he did not think he could finally survive the ordeal. Duer instructed him to have the litter prepared, determined upon fulfilling his duty at the risk of his life. Fortunately Morris arrived on the scene early in the morning, and the sacrifice became unnecessary. The conspirators, fearful of not being able to carry their resolution, did not present it. Hither, too, came General Lafayette, whom the members of the

cabal desired to make one of themselves and here it was that Lafayette, in the presence of the assembled conspirators, to his everlasting honor, proposed his famous toast: "To the commander-in-chief of the American armies," thereby announcing his opposition to their secret schemes and his loyalty to Washington. Here also the articles of confederation of the United States were considered and passed by congress November 13, 1787.

Of the revolutionary heroes, after independence had been won, General Washington was enthusiastically welcomed on his passage through York July 2nd, 1791; John Adams while President of the United States, was received with demonstrations of respect June 4th, 1800; and General Lafayette was most joyfully greeted and entertained at a public dinner February 2nd, 1825, in which about 100 gentlemen participated.

York county in 1791 furnished a regiment of militia and again in 1794 part of a brigade

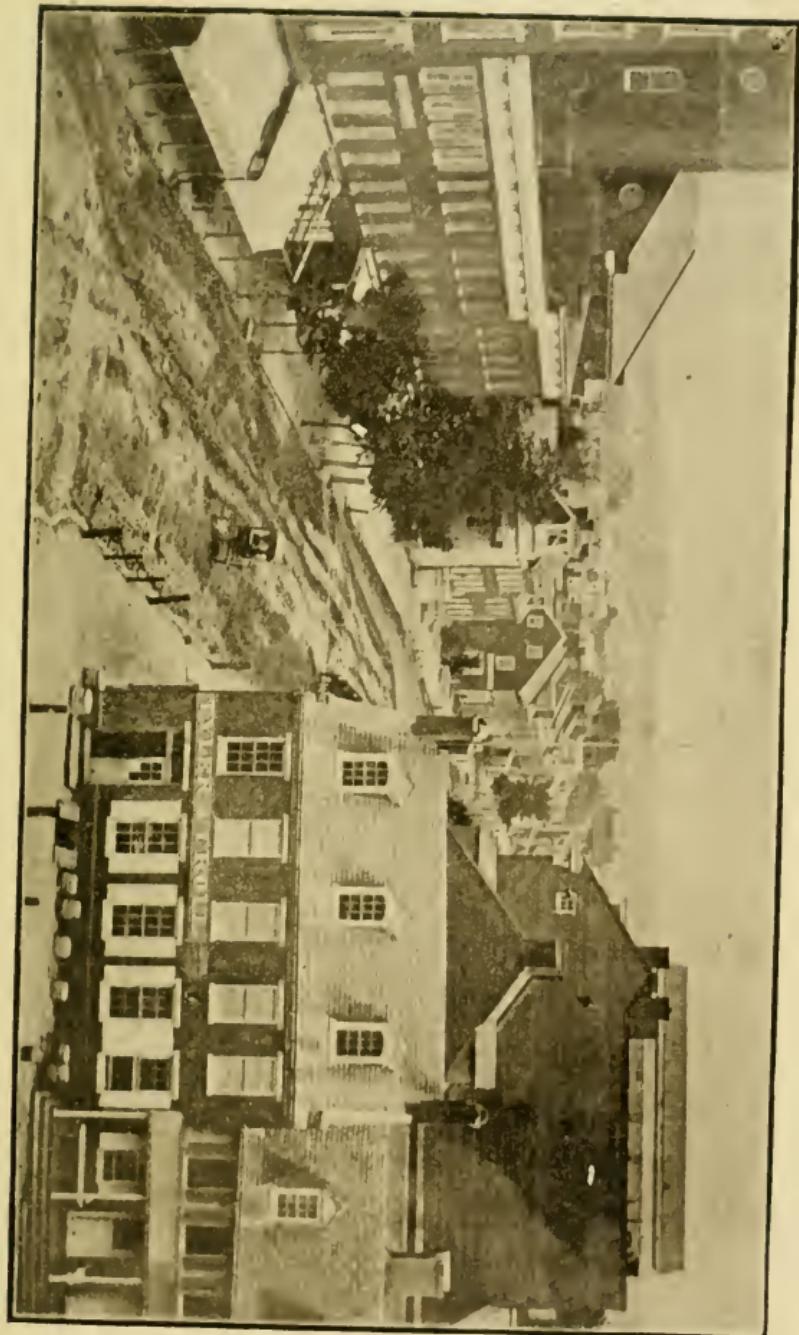
to assist Gen. Anthony Wayne in dispersing the Indians, besides in later times contributing its full contingent towards the suppression of several riots.

A company of about one hundred young men called the York Volunteers, the "flower of the county," enlisted under Captain Michael H. Spangler, in 1814, marched to Baltimore, became attached to the Fifth Maryland regiment, participated in the battle of North Point, and were highly commended for their conduct on that occasion. Two companies left Hanover about the same time and formed part of a Maryland regiment, which was also engaged in the same battle. They were commanded by Captains Frederick Metzgar and John Bair.

A number of York county people took part in the victories of the Mexican war, among them Thomas A. Zeigle, Thomas D. Cochran and Granville C. Haller, as captains. Colonel Albert C. Ramsay commanded the Eleventh regiment.

President Lincoln issued his first call for troops to suppress the rebellion April 15, 1861. The Worth Infantry, Captain Thomas A. Zeigle, and the York Rifles, Captain George Hay, responded, and on the 20th left on a special train southward to guard the railroad leading into Baltimore, the first Pennsylvania volunteers to enter the service during the rebellion fully armed and equipped. A fund of \$15,000 was soon raised for the support of the families of the volunteers, \$10,000 being contributed by the county, \$1,000 by the borough of York, some by Hanover and Wrightsville, and the balance by private subscriptions. By May 7th, 5,500 soldiers were encamped at York, the First, Second, Third, Twelfth, Thirteenth and Sixteenth regiments of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and some artillery. The Worth Infantry and York Rifles soon returned from the duty assigned them and the latter became attached, as Company K, to the Second regiment, and the former to the Sixteenth regiment, as Com-

CENTRE SQUARE, 1861



pany A. Of this latter regiment, Captain Zeigle was made colonel. The Sixteenth contained four York companies. These regiments were mustered out in July, 1861, the enlistments having been but for three months. Colonel Zeigle then obtained command of the One Hundred and Seventh regiment, but soon after died; thus ending an uncommonly promising career as a soldier.

York county's great sacrifice to the cause of the Union can be recounted but briefly here. To the Thirtieth, Forty-first, Forty-third, One Hundred and Seventh, One Hundred and Eighth (Eleventh Calvary), One Hundred and Eighty-second (Twelfth Calvary), One Hundred and Eighty-seventh and Two Hundred and Seventh regiments our people supplied a company each; to the Seventy-sixth, One Hundred and Third and Two Hundred and Ninth, two each; to the One Hundred and Thirtieth and Two Hundredreth four each; to the Eight-seventh, eight, and to the One Hundredreth and Sixty-sixth, ten.

Though all these numerous organizations did their part in maintaining the military fame of the country, yet it may not seem invidious to especially refer to the Eighty-seventh and One Hundred and Thirtieth, and particularly the former, in view of the numbers enlisted in them from this county and in view of the severe service they encountered. The Eighty-seventh was commanded successively by Colonels George Hay, John W. Schall and James Tearney, and James A. Stahle as Lieutenant Colonel. It was under Milroy in the Shenandoah Valley and took part in the fights at Middletown, Winchester and Carter's Woods to check Lee's advance towards Gettysburg. In July, 1863, it was part of General French's corps of the Army of the Potomac and participated in the battles of Manassas Gap, Bealton Station, Kelly's Ford, Brandy Station, Locust Grove and Mine Run. Subsequently it fought at the Wilderness and Cold

Harbor, and at Monocacy it met with heavy loss. It helped Sheridan route the enemy at Opequon and afterwards at Fisher's Hill, and reached home September 27, 1864, having completed its eventful three years' term of enlistment. It received a most enthusiastic welcome, but its honors had been purchased at the expense of many bereaved homes.

The One Hundred and Thirtieth regiment was organized in August, 1862, from companies recruited in Cumberland and York counties. Within a month it stood not more than one hundred yards from the enemy's front at Antietam. It held this exposed position for hours against a heavy fire of Southern veterans. In December following it participated in the battle of Fredericksburg where its commander, Henry J. Zinn, was killed, after which Levi Maish became colonel. On May 3, 1863, it was engaged in the terrible battle of Chancellorsville and Colonel Maish was for the second time

wounded, having previously had a like experience at Antietam.

When the Confederates advanced at the time of the battle of Antietam great alarm was felt. Seven companies were organized at York September 12, 1862, officers were selected and arms and equipments secured but upon the retreat of the enemy after the battle, they were disbanded on the 24th of the same month.

On Sunday, June 28, 1863, our people witnessed the invasion of the town by an armed enemy. The four Brigades of Early's division of Ewell's corps of Lee's army, commanded by Generals Gordon, Hayes, Smith and Hoke, advanced from Gettysburg to York and Gordon's command marched as far as Wrightsville where they found the bridge over the Susquehanna river burnt to prevent or impede their progress across the river. General Early made a requisition upon the town for food, clothing and money, and to prevent injury to property it was com-

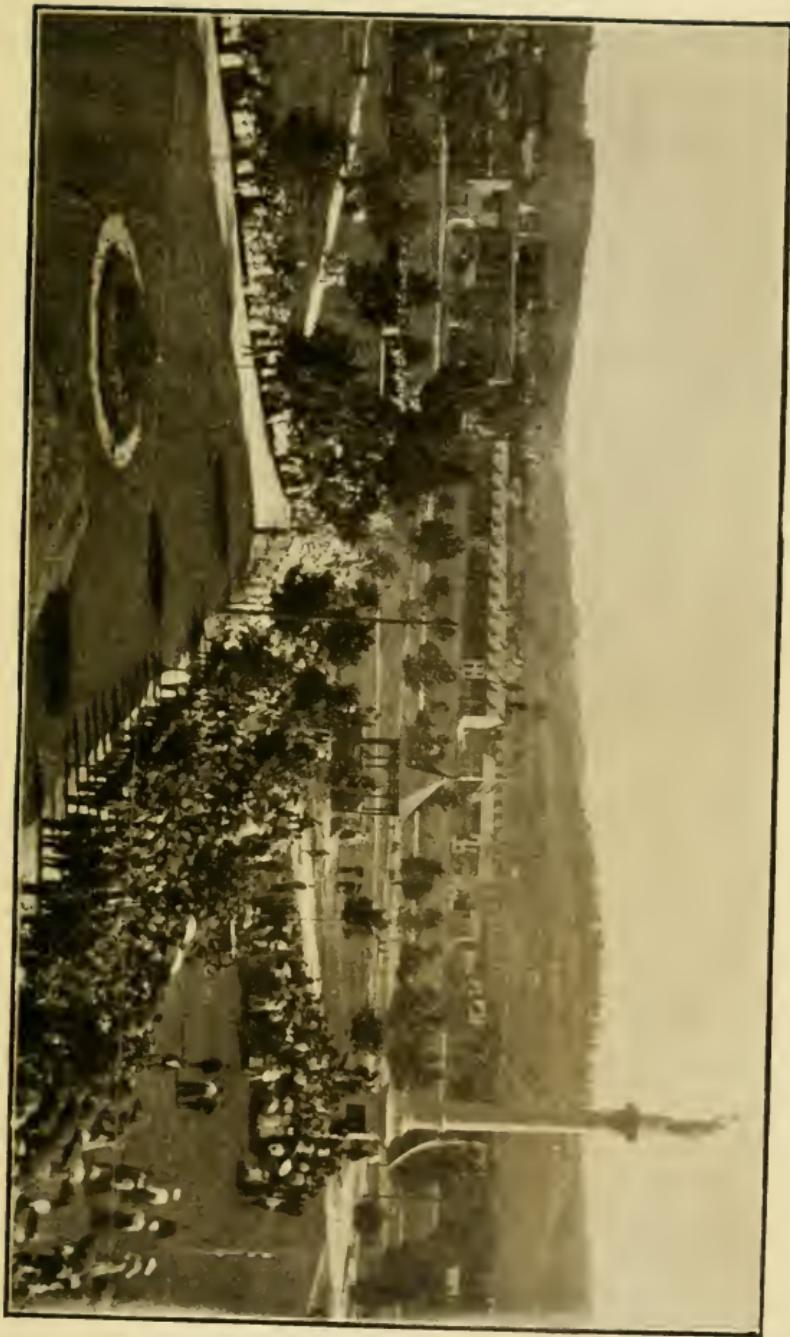
plied with so far as possible, the citizens furnishing 22,000 pounds of beef, 1,200 pounds of salt, 2,000 pairs of boots and shoes, 1,000 hats, 1,000 pairs socks, 165 barrels of flour, 300 gallons molasses, 3,500 pounds sugar and 1,560 pounds of coffee. One hundred thousand dollars in money were demanded but only \$28,610 were raised. The banks had already removed their funds to Philadelphia before Early's arrival. These funds included several hundred thousand dollars of paper currency in possession of the York County bank. There had also been much hurrying of horses and other movable property across the river to escape seizure by the Confederates. The postoffice had been transferred to Lancaster on the 27th.

On Monday, Early sent for President Judge Fisher and demanded the keys of the court house offices and declared his intention to destroy the court house records by way of retaliation for the burning of Fairfax court house by the Union soldiers. He was de-

tered from doing this only through the earnest appeal of Judge Fisher to his honor and sense of justice. The soldiers, though in rags and ill-fed, were under excellent discipline and observed strictly their orders to do no injury to person or property. Early Tuesday morning, June 30th, the Southerners were hurried back to Gettysburg and were engaged in the great battle at that place. The day after the battle forty-seven loads of supplies were sent to Gettysburg from York for the use of the wounded soldiers.

All who are old enough will remember the barracks on the commons where was maintained a government general hospital from July 27, 1862, to the close of the war. Dr. A. R. Blair acted as executive officer during a considerable part of its history and a number of the local physicians assisted. There was probably no better managed establishment of the kind anywhere during the war. At one time the number of patients was 2,-

PENN PARK — FORMERLY THE COMMONS



500, with twenty-two surgeons in attendance. The people of the town and vicinity, and particularly the ladies, took much interest in the welfare of the wounded and sick soldiers and contributed much to their comfort.

On the day Early evacuated York a cavalry and artillery engagement occurred at Hanover between some of Kilpatrick's Union cavalry corps and the forces of General J. E. B. Stuart. The former commanded about 5,000 men and under him were Generals Custer and Farnsworth. Stuart's men numbered about 8,000 and his second in command was General Fitzhugh Lee. The two armies had been marching northward on lines converging at Hanover, Stuart having travelled the more easterly of the two. Kilpatrick's advance had almost reached Abbottstown, having just barely escaped Early en route to Gettysburg, while his rear guard consisting of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania cavalry, was at Hanover. The advance portion of Stuart's corps, coming up from the

rear, charged with a terrific yell into the streets of the town.

The unexpected attack quite demoralized the Pennsylvania troops and they were driven back for a time. The nearest Union regiments, however, the Fifth New York, First Virginia and Tenth Vermont, quickly countermarched, charged the Confederates and drove them out of the town. York and Baltimore streets were barricaded. The Southerners, after waiting about half an hour charged the second time and a confused hand-to-hand conflict followed. The Confederates were repulsed again and Stuart deflected his course to the east, and not being informed of Lee's order to concentrate at Gettysburg, passed on through Jefferson Borough, and Dover and Warrington Townships. He was no doubt deterred through this repulse at Hanover from arriving in time to render his commander-in-chief most valuable and much needed assistance in the great battle at that place. General Lee, it is said,

always greatly regretted Stuart's delay in reaching the scene of the conflict. The total loss on the Union side at Hanover in killed was eleven, and in wounded forty-two. Twenty-one were captured but were afterward paroled at Dover.

When war was declared against Spain in the spring of 1898 Companies A, of York, and I, of Wrightsville, as part of the Eighth regiment of the Pennsylvania National Guard were ordered to Mt. Gretna. There all who desired entered the United States service, but peace was declared before any of the York county soldiers, excepting a few in the regular army, were called into actual conflict with the enemy. About twenty of the York boys also joined a Company in the Fifth regiment recruited at Gettysburg. A second company, F, of the Eleventh regiment of the National Guard, was organized in York during the war but its services were never required by the United States.

War at times seems necessary, but if so,

it is emphatically a necessary evil. The further man advances from the savage state the more he realizes that a due recognition of the rights of others is in the end the surest guarantee of his own welfare and safety. The most important achievements after all amongst civilized people are those of peace. An inventive Edison builds, an aggressive Alexander destroys, but sometimes a Washington must stand guard in order that the building may proceed. If, therefore, reference has been made more particularly to the stirring events of war, it is from no desire to be unmindful of the accomplishments of our people in times of peace.

When the change that has been wrought in York county since one hundred and fifty years ago is brought home to our minds we are astonished. Practically a wilderness then, to-day it is a garden spot. In 1749 the population of York county, (including Adams), was about 6,000, now that of York alone exceeds 116,000. Each generation

has labored and left for its successors a heritage better than it received; each has found to its hand more forest cleared away and more cultivated fields, better homes, new and more extensive factories and work shops and has lived better, and enjoyed more comforts and conveniences than its predecessor.

Prominent in the advancement of any community is the development of its high-ways. The first roads in York county were old Indian trails, traveled by trains of pack horses, carrying panniers, sacks and barrels on each side. One of these roads extended northward from Goldsboro, another westward from McCall's Ferry and another from Wrightsville through the sites of York and Hanover, (formerly Conewago settlement), to western Maryland, known as the Monocacy road. The last named was surveyed and laid out in due legal form as a public highway in 1739. Gradually other roads were laid out until the county now is covered with a net work of them.

Dirt roads, however, became insufficient for the needs of the people. The contract for building the turnpike from Wrightsville was awarded in 1808. The pike from Hanover to the Maryland line was completed in 1809 and those from York to Gettysburg, York Haven and the Maryland line, and that from Berlin to Hanover, were all constructed in the early part of this century. The one known as the Chanceford pike was not made until after 1867 under act of assembly approved May 10th of that year.

The first canal constructed in Pennsylvania and probably in the United States was one about a mile in length around the Cone-wago Falls at York Haven, completed in 1795 or 1796, partly with state aid. The event was considered so important at the time as to be the occasion of a great concourse of people at its opening, among them the governor of the state. The Susquehanna was much used in those days for purposes of navigation. A second canal was constructed

from York to the Susquehanna river along the Codorus by a company chartered in 1825. It did a large business until the railroads to Wrightsville and Harrisburg were built, after which it was abandoned. The Tide Water and Susquehanna Canal was constructed during the years 1836 to 1839 from Wrightsville to the Chesapeake bay by a corporation organized for the purpose, and was formally opened to traffic in 1840, the total cost being nearly 4,000,000 dollars. Before the development of railroad competition and as late as the seventies the canal was of immense benefit to the people of Southeastern York county as an outlet for their products and a means of obtaining phosphates and supplies, but for some years past it has been unused.

One of the important events in the history of York county was the construction of the railways, which were afterwards consolidated into the Northern Central Railroad, furnishing easy, quick and cheaper communication

with the outside world. The York and Maryland Line Railway was completed in August, 1838, connecting with a road constructed from Baltimore to the Pennsylvania Line. The York and Cumberland road was completed to Bridgeport in 1850. The three roads now comprise part of the Northern Central. The charter of the Hanover and York Railroad was granted April 21, 1849, and with the Hanover and Littlestown Railroad, completed in 1858, now constitutes part of the Frederick Division of the Pennsylvania Railway.

Other roads are the Hanover branch, from Hanover Junction, on the Northern Central, to Hanover, completed in 1852, and the Bachman Valley, opened in 1872, from Valley Junction, on the Hanover Branch, to Ebbvale, Md. With the Baltimore and Hanover Railroad (constructed in 1877 from Emory Grove, Md., to Black Rock, Pa.), and the Baltimore and Harrisburg Railroad, recently completed to York, the Bachman

Valley road forms part of the Western Maryland Railroad system. The York and Peachbottom (now, after several changes, part of the Maryland and Pennsylvania) railway, was completed as far as Delta in 1876, mostly by farmers of the Lower End, with some assistance from York, as the result of the great industry and perseverance of S. G. Boyd, Esq., its promoter. In 1883 it was extended to Peach Bottom. The Dillsburg and Mechanicsburg Railroad was constructed in 1871 and 1872, and the Stewartstown Railroad in 1885. In this connection it may be noted that the first successful locomotive to burn coal was built in York by Phineas Davis in 1831. It was used on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and weighed about 7,500 pounds, not more than one-tenth the weight of an engine of the present day.

The first act to provide for a system of public schools in Pennsylvania was passed in 1834. York county did not take advantage of it for two years thereafter and some of the

townships, notably Heidelberg, Manheim and West Manheim, did not accept the provisions of the law until as late as 1870. The developments of the system went steadily on, however, and it has now been many years since any child in the county has not been able to obtain an elementary education at the public charge. Sections which were at first most opposed to the innovation have since been most conspicuous in its advocacy.

Many private schools in early days and later were established which cannot be even named in this brief review, the advantages and good results from which cannot be measured. The York Collegiate Institute, however, must be mentioned. It was established almost entirely through the munificence of Samuel Small, Sr., and opened in 1873 in a building which was destroyed by fire in 1885. It was at once reconstructed by the three nephews of the founder on a more elaborate scale. It has been from the beginning a well conducted and most highly



YORK COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

useful institution. The most notable school in the county perhaps from a historical stand-point is the York County Academy, located on North Beaver street, in York. It was erected in 1787, and Colonel Thomas Hartley was president of the first board of managers. At first it was connected with the Episcopal Church, but in 1799 became vested in a non-denominational board of trustees as a "school or academy for the education of youth in the learned languages, in the useful arts, sciences, and literature." A number of educators of eminent ability have presided at this institution, among them D. H. Prince, Rev. Stephen Boyer, Daniel Kirkwood and George W. Ruby.

ADDENDUM.

Such then is the York of today. Such, briefly, are a few of the events which have transpired in the county of York during the past one hundred and fifty years and more. Many were the privations of our predeces-

sors and great the toil which procured for us of the present day the heritage we now enjoy. It is fitting therefore that we cherish the memory of the past while enjoying the harvest which it prepared for us, for by thus recalling the past we will the more be reminded that the present generation, too, has a trust to perform,—a trust not only to use well our heritage, but to pass it on to coming generations, a fabric enlarged by our labors and improved by our keeping.





